The Outlook

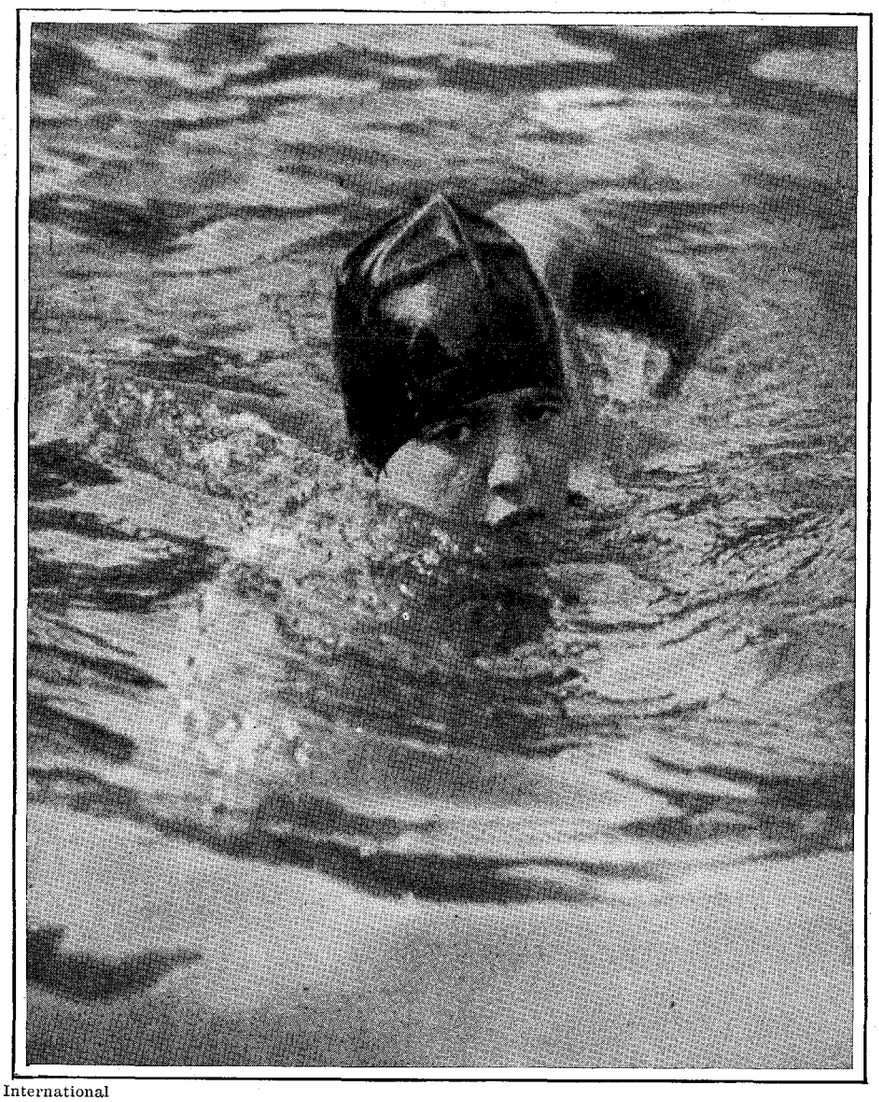
Volume 143 August 18, 1926 Number 16

That Amazing Swim

NINETEEN TWENTY-SIX will always be memorable in the world of sports for an achievement which stands by itself among the recorded feats of athletic history.

Gertrude Ederle, the young American swimmer, in this year has broken the record for the Channel swim. This difficult undertaking has only been successfully completed by five men. Miss Ederle is not only the first woman to cross the Channel but she has now the record for crossing the Channel in the shortest time—14 hours and 31 minutes.

In the world of sports there have been splendid women athletes who have stood out above other women as Tilden or Jones stand out in the world of tennis and golf. So far as we are aware Miss Ederle's swim, however, constitutes the first major record involving endurance and skill in which a woman has bettered the best that a man can do. It will probably be a long time before the feat is duplicated. We do not believe that even in her dreams, Suzanne Lenglen thinks of giving Tilden 15 a game or Glenna Collett hopes to give half a stroke a hole to Bobby Jones. If either could do this she would, in her own specific field, duplicate the feat of Gertrude Ederle.



International

The stroke that won

"The Tiger" Snarls at Uncle Sam

IN a work entitled "Civilization" which is said to sum up the philosophy derived from his varied experience of life, the old War Premier of France, Clemenceau, pleads for the spirit of tolerance and efforts for mutual understanding as the only solutions of the troubles of the world. In an open letter to President Coolidge "The Tiger" attacks the debt policy of the United States and compares America with Soviet Russia, charging her with making a blood truce with Germany in utter disregard of her comrades-in-arms.

Clemenceau's sudden emergence from his retirement is likely to accomplish something worse than nothing for the purpose he has in mind—modification of the terms of the debt settlement. The language which he has chosen to plead the cause of France already has aroused alarm in the government offices and press of Paris. President Coolidge is reported to be unfavorably impressed. Administration advisers fear that Clemenceau's letter will strengthen the hands of the Senate faction opposing the French debt settlement as too lenient. With the agreement waiting ratification both in Congress and the French Parliament, few actions more likely to cause difficulties than Clemenceau's letter could have been conceived.

It is a pity that so old a friend of the United States should raise his voice in accusations which display so complete a failure to grasp the American point of view. We should be lenient in judging the letter, remembering the long-standing cordiality of its author towards the American people and the fact that he is now an easily irritated old gentleman with a fixed idea of the supreme and unique virtue of France.

Meanwhile, Premier Poincaré continues to say little and saw wood. He has forced through Parliament not only his taxation measures designed to increase revenues by 2,500,000,000 francs this year and by 9,000,000,000 francs next year, but also his bill for a sinking fund to meet short term bonds and his plan to redeem the currency by giving facilities to the Bank of France to create a

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stabilizing fund by purchase of foreign securities and gold on the open market.

Poincaré has not yet revealed his intentions concerning the debts. But we shall do best to disregard unofficial expressions of opinion and await a statement of policy from him as the authorized executive and spokesman of France.

No Passports to Japan

FOLLOWING conventions with Germany, Italy, and France, Japan has now made arrangements with the United States to abolish the need of passports between the two countries. We still maintain the archaic and bothersome restriction for those who would visit Europe. Besides the annoyance and expense, there is also a sense of espionage connected with the system that makes it doubly out of place in a world made safe for democracy.

Scientists in Session

THAT sedate and serious body of scientists, the British Association for the Advancement of Science, opened its meeting at Oxford with an odd tendency toward the eccentric or speculative. Even the Prince of Wales, President of the Association, in the course of a sensible talk about science as applied to everyday life, and in reference to research work directed against deterioration of fabrics, declared, "This will be good news to those of us who may have suffered or may even be suffering tonight from the torture of a collar which comes back from the wash with an edge like a surgical saw."

And the correspondent of the New York "Times" picked from one day's session these "high lights:"

> If Americans keep up their present rate of gasoline consumption there soon will not be any more in the world.
>
> Tut-ankh-Amen used cosmetics.
>
> Rats are highly intelligent animals.
>
> There are fewer than 1,000 able-bodied "idle rich" in Britain.
>
> Until only the other day a common substitute for money in Africa was a bottle of gin.
>
> Darwin knew very little about the origin of species.

Apart from such single interspersed utterances, two serious claims may arouse dissent from scientists of authority. One was the attempt of Sir Jagadis Chandra Bose, a Hindu savant, to draw too close an analogy between the "heart" and "blood" of plants and those of animals. Of this theory an editorial in the New York "Herald Tribune" says: "So far as we have been able to learn no plant physiologist of real distinction in any country of the globe has risen to second Dr. Bose's astonishing findings." The other instance was Sir Oliver Lodge's eloquent protest, in a sermonic address on Sunday at one of the colleges, against the divorce of the scientific from the spiritual, and particularly his assertion that the next great advance in knowledge will be to bring the spiritual conception of the universe out of the domain of religion into that of actual scientific discovery. Interpreted by Sir Oliver's well known tenets as to present spiritualistic intercourse, the claim was a wide extension of existing fields of scientific research.

The paper by Professor Henry Osborn, the head of the American Museum of Natural History in New York, was an admirable and far-reaching discussion of the advance since Darwin's day in the study of evolution and selection of species. The address when printed in full, as it doubtless will be, may well mark a new standpoint for future study and conclusions.

Altogether, so far as reports have as yet reached this country, this year's meeting of the Association has been marked by boldness of opinion and varied novelty in the topics discussed.

World Problems at Williamstown

ECONOMICS appear to be taking the first place once held by politics and diplomacy in the discussions of the annual Institute of Politics at Williamstown, Massachusetts. In the program for this summer's sessions, to be sure, disarmament, international law, control of public opinion, the Far East and inter-American questions in the foreign policy of the United States, and the Philippine independence problem, form important parts. But a greater proportion of attention is devoted to such themes as the aspects of the world economic situation, the role of chemistry in world affairs, and mineral resources in their political relations. And these topics have aroused the greatest degree of interest and comment.

The Institute is only reflecting and responding to the trend of the modern world. The most influential statesmen of to-day sit in banking houses and the executive offices of corporations engaged in industry on an international scale. The students of foreign affairs and the journalists and editors who write about them have to understand the search and struggle for the resources of civilized life, if they are to explain events in the more superficial world of diplomacy. Politicians, ambassadors, and cabinet ministers nowadays are largely weathervanes —more or less ornamental, as the case may be—that show which way the economic wind is blowing.

Coolidge and National Recovery

THREE years have passed since, upon the death of President Harding, Calvin Coolidge became President of the United States. Mr. Coolidge pays somewhat more than ordinary attention to the observance of anniversaries. He made this one the occasion for reviewing, not so much the achievements of his Administration as the achievements of the country during the time that he has been Chief Magistrate.

Beyond question, those achievements have been great, and the Coolidge Administration is entitled to a larger share of the credit than he modestly claims. It is true that the country was, three years ago, in a natural post-war slump; equally true that the country has since made a natural recovery. But nature, as every physician knows, needs assistance in its recuperative tasks. Mainly, it needs to be guarded against strains and agitation. In short, it needs to be left nicely alone. The nurse becomes, at such a time, temporarily more important than the physician. And, while Coolidge has demonstrated his ability as a physician, one must admit that he has shown exceptional skill as nurse. He has given comparatively little medicine; he has kept the patient quiet while it regained its strength and returned to the normal ways of prosperity.

After recovery, the work of the physician again becomes important. Complications and chronic effects are to be looked for. There are indications that they exist in this case. There has been, as the President points out, "a decline in commodity prices without a reduction in wages." While this contributed to the immediate recovery, it may not be a sign of permanent good health. Wages and commodity prices bear a necessary normal relation to each other. In some of the farming regions, where the laborer

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How now, mine host!

(Merry Wives of Windsor, Act II, Scene 1)

Ding in the St. Paul Pioneer Press

OH CHIL-DREN YEW-HOO DONT YOU THINK YOU'D BETTER COME HOME NOW?
U.S. DEBT PACT
U.S. VISITORS
SPECIAL DISPATCH FROM EUROPE:- UNCLE SHYLOCK

Copyright, 1926

Must have worn out our welcome 'r something

From W. K. Collier, St. Paul, Minn.

Cargill for the Central Press Association

MADAM EUROPE
SUMMER BOARDING HOUSE
MAYBE I WAS A BIT HASTY IN CALLING HIM ALL THOSE NAMES?
ATTACKS ON U.S.
MILLIONS OF DOLLARS SPENT EACH YEAR BY U.S. TOURISTS

The taming of the shrew

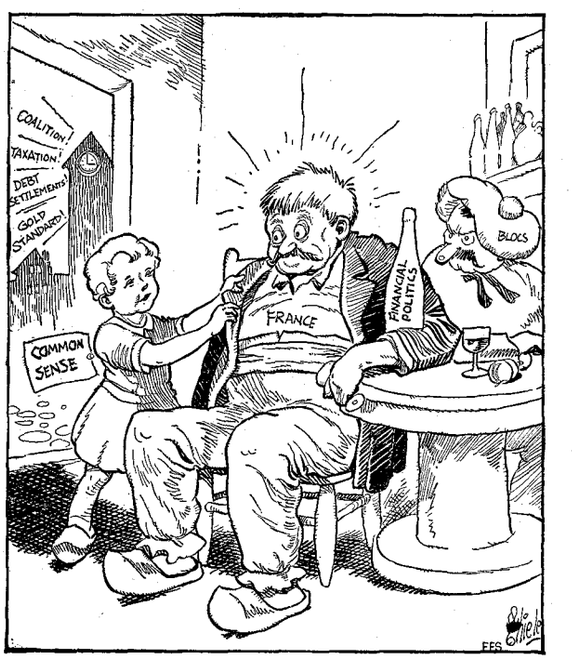
Thomas in the Detroit News

THIS IS AN OUTRAGE GET OFF MY PROPERTY OR I'LL CALL THE POLICE
YOU MESSED UP OUR PLACE LAST SUNDAY AND WE THOUGHT WE'D RETURN THE CALL

The farmer visits the city man

From Miss Edith E. Barnett, Kansas City, Mo.

Thiele for the Editors' Feature Service



Father, oh, father, come home with me now!

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receives his wages in commodity prices, the President admits that prosperity is not as great as it should be. He admits, too, that the textile industry has not fared well during the past three years.

These may be comparatively inconsequential complications, but they are sufficient to indicate that a general toning up after convalescence may be necessary.

Fast Workers

ACCORDING to the Bureau of Labor Statistics the output per man in the iron and steel industry has increased fifty per cent since 1914, when most of the men were on a twelve-hour day schedule. They now work eight. Efficiency in boot and shoe making has increased seventeen per cent in the same period. The most amazing augmentation of effort, however, is found in its making of automobiles, where the output per man is now three times as great as it was twelve years ago.

The Marriage of Music and Light

MANY people have long associated moving pictures with the typical small town performance, distinguished by musical accompaniment of tin-pan piano and squeaky violin. Perhaps this feature of cinema entertainment is soon fated to pass into the limbo of discarded customs, along with snuff, chromos, and the old-fashioned bicycle. A new and remarkable device, known as the Vitaphone, promises to replace it.

The Vitaphone is a musical instrument —a sort of first cousin to the phonograph. In scientific language, its purpose is to reproduce sound in perfect synchronization with action on the screen. Actually, it is an amazing contrivance, capable of bringing the finest symphonic music into moving picture theaters in every small town in the country. When it was first introduced to a "movie" audience a short time ago in New York City, its hearers were surprised not only at the variety of entertainment it produced but at its illusion of reality, due to extremely faithful reproduction. The full volume of a large orchestra, punctuated by thundering kettledrums—the delicate touches of a solo violinist's bow —the resonant voice of a Metropolitan tenor—such effects are uncanny, even aside from the fact that every movement of the performers can be watched upon the screen.

Courtesy Warner Brothers

John Barrymore in "Don Juan"

Of course its results cannot be expected to be uniformly successful. The piano does not sound like a real piano. Occasionally a blurred effect, as from an overtaxed radio, is produced. But at its best the instrument barely stops short of reality itself.

At present the Vitaphone appears to have two functions. One is to provide musical entertainment, showing simultaneously the performances on the screen. The other is to reproduce fitting orchestral accompaniments for films with the music synchronized with the action. Its first attempt in this direction has been a musical setting to "Don Juan," John Barrymore's new melodramatic film, played by the New York Philharmonic Orchestra.

It is gratifying to find that the Vitaphone has contented itself with such a step instead of attempting "speaking movies." The silent drama is a better art for the limitation forced upon it of silence. Talking films can be but an imitation of the legitimate theater. But when moving picture action is interpreted not by words, but by music, an in-

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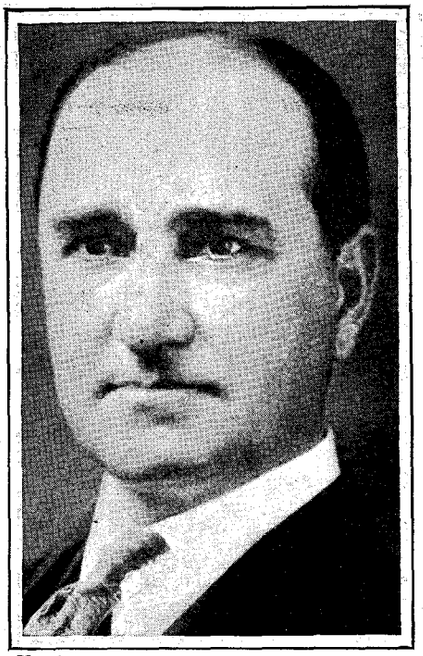
teresting art is created—acquiring some of the charm of opera, while remaining free from its often ridiculous conventionalities. The appearance of the Vitaphone may help in this direction. For when it is possible to do justice to orchestral music in thousands of theaters throughout the country, it should be profitable—as it never has been before—to lay as much stress on the music as on the scenery and costuming.

A Defiant "Angel"

SAMUEL INSULL, utilities magnate and "angel" extraordinary of Illinois politics, is threatened with punishment by court action because he refused to tell the Senatorial Investigating Committee anything about contributions that he may have made to candidates for Cook County offices. He took the position that these purely local affairs are none of the Senate's business. Robert E. Crowe, State's Attorney for Cook County, took the same position and held an equally tight mouth.

Mr. Insull has undoubtedly been too promiscously lavish with his money, and he did not always show a scrupulous regard for that perfect good taste which Senator Reed, of Pennsylvania, says was universally observed in the colossal expenditures in the Republican primary in that State. Mr. Insull is, therefore, not the ideal man to repel the inquisitiveness of Senator Reed, of Missouri, Chairman of the Investigating Committee, but there are those who will chuckle over his defiance even if they do not approve it. This may not be one of the cases in which Senator Reed inquires where he has no right, but an exasperated public, remembering the wet bills inquiry and other things, may not make a fine distinction. Senator Reed would do better, perhaps, not to press the point with Insull. He already had uncovered enough. Expenditures of over a million dollars in the primary contest between Smith and McKinley have been revealed.

The question of what is to be done with Vare and Smith, Republican nominees in Pennsylvania and Illinois, respectively, if they are elected, is already troubling some of the men who may have to deal with it. If Vare is denied a seat, Governor Fisher will appoint a Senator—and Fisher was a beneficiary of the Pepper expenditures, considerably more lavish than those of Vare. The Senate is in for a dirty job. The voters



Keystone

Finis J. Garrett

of Pennsylvania might settle the question for the Senate by electing the Democrat, former Secretary of Labor William B. Wilson. But the Illinois voters can scarcely help. "Boss" Brennan, the Democratic nominee, made his campaign mainly on Insull money, just as Smith did.

Garrett and the Farmers

REPUBLICAN Senators and Congressmen from the West are not the only ones exposed to danger of retaliation by farm organization forces for the defeat of the Haugen Bill. That Democrats in the South are not immune is proved by the narrow margin by which Finis J. Garrett, Representative from the Eighth Tennessee District and Democratic leader in the House, won his nomination. Without serious opposition since he first went to Congress twenty years ago, he won this time by only a few hundred votes.

Keystone

Harry B. Hawes

Certain of the farm organizations were seriously offended by Garrett's action when he held the organized Democratic strength in the House from support of the Haugen Bill. One of the most prominent of co-operative leaders went to Tennessee and made speeches urging the nomination of Garrett's opponent. The effort came very close to success, and it is said that the dangerously small majority for Garrett was obtained only through the counter argument that the farmers have more to hope for from the Democrats than from the Republicans, that the majority in the next House is likely to be Democratic, and that defeat of the Democratic leader would be particularly unfortunate under such circumstances.

Having won the Democratic nomination, Mr. Garrett is certain of re-election. If there should be a Democratic majority, he will probably be the next Speaker. And if, as has been frequently threatened, the farmers are to make their next fight for tariff reduction, he will be a power on the farmers' side. While he has supported a large number of Administration measures in the present Congress, he has, sincerely, the traditional Democratic view of protection.

How Much Mist Will Make a Wet?

As midsummer primaries are held to name party candidates for United States Senator, the wets continue to claim the earth and the fullness thereof. The recent Missouri primary, it is said, resulted in a double victory for those who would get rid of the Eighteenth Amendment. Senator George H. Williams, appointed when Senator Spencer died, was nominated by the Republicans and Harry B. Hawes, Representative from one of the St. Louis districts, by the Democrats. Both are hailed as revisionists. As in several other instances, there appears to be little enough ground for the claims of wet victory. Mr. Hawes has thought that the Volstead law should be modified in some particu-

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lars and Senator Williams has "promised to abide by the decision of the voters of Missouri." Of such misty utterances, it seems, are wet Senators made!

In Oklahoma, where Senator John W. Harreld won the Republican and former Representative Elmer Thomas the Democratic nomination, only one wet victory is claimed. Harreld has done nothing and nothing has been done for him or against him that can be used as a wet label. The origin of the wet tag on Thomas is not clear. He once owned a resort named Medicine Park. And it is said that the Ku Klux Klan will oppose his election. Perhaps either of those things would be sufficient to mark him as a wet.

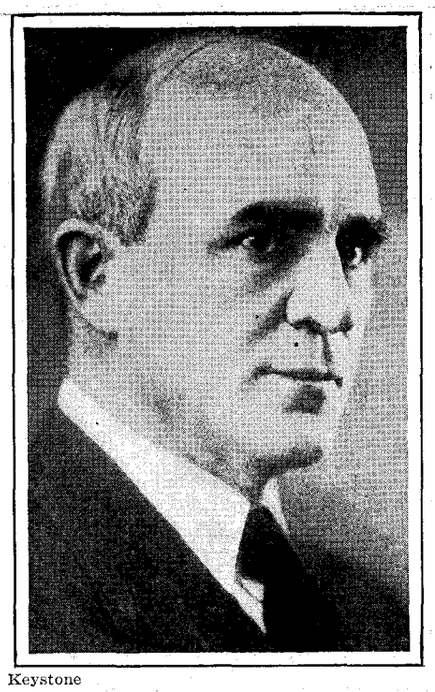
It happens that these two proclaimed wets, Hawes and Thomas, are the two on whom the Democrats fix their brightest hopes of making inroads on the Republican majority in the Senate.

The results in Missouri and Oklahoma probably do not prove any of the things that they have been said to prove but they do tend to corroborate one thing entirely overlooked by the interpreters, to wit, that the country west of the Mississippi is still young. Only one of the four Senatorial nominees, Williams, is a native. Hawes and Harreld are Kentuckians, Thomas an Indianian.

"Ma" Ferguson in the Run-off

GOVERNOR MIRIAM A. FERGUSON is not yet eliminated from Texas politics, or even from the contest for the Democratic nomination for Governor. The official count showed that Attorney-General Dan Moody lacked about 1,500 votes of having a majority of all votes cast in the first primary. Despite her announcement that, regardless of a majority, she would retire from the race and would resign the office of Governor following an extra session of the Legislature, Mrs. Ferguson's name went on the ballot for the run-off primary of August 28.

There may be indications to those who look coldly on from a distance that Mrs. Ferguson has repudiated her promises, but her followers in Texas probably can never be made to believe any such thing. When she made the banter that she would resign if Moody beat her by one vote, did she refer to the first primary or the run-off? Mrs. Ferguson's opponents will believe—as most outsiders probably will—that she meant the first,



Keystone

Senator George H. Williams

but her supporters will believe that she meant the latter. Such is the devotion of the average American voter to his idols.

The result is continued turmoil for Texas. The second primary will be more bitter, if possible, than the first. Already charges of irregularity and possible corruption have been made against Moody. Those of the Ferguson following who may not be able to justify "Ma's" apparent repudiation of her promises on the former ground can contend that Moody did not have a legal plurality.

Keystone

Mrs. John W. Langley, who won her convict husband's seat in Congress

Vicarious Political Atonement

ANOTHER woman has undertaken—and believes she has succeeded—in vindicating her husband by getting herself elected to the office which he held. She is Mrs. John W. Langley, who has just won the Republican nomination for Representative in Congress from the Tenth District of Kentucky. In that district, the Republican nomination has usually been equivalent to election.

John W. Langley is serving a two-year sentence in the Federal penitentiary in Atlanta for conspiracy to violate the prohibition law. Following his conviction, he resigned the seat in Congress which he had occupied for nearly twenty years.

Mrs. Langley is a woman of ability and, in her own right, would probably make a good Representative in Congress. It is difficult to understand, however, how either her election or anything that she may do in Congress can vindicate her husband. Mrs. Miriam Ferguson, who "vindicated" her husband by winning the office of Governor from which he was debarred, has not found the job either easy or pleasant. Neither has she found the stigma entirely removed from her husband's name. While women are to be welcomed in high political office, it is to be hoped that the offering of wives as vicarious atonements for husbands gone wrong will not become general.

Uncle Sam and the Babies

WE, like most Americans, take pleasure in a good natured dig at our Uncle Sam. We would not, however, do the dear old gentleman an injury, and we certainly want no false impression to go abroad from anything that we say concerning him. Therefore, we refer to an article in this issue, "Uncle Sam's Nieces and Nephews."

It is said in that article that, until quite recently, Uncle Sam recognized no nieces and nephews except pigs, cows, and other kinds of cattle; that, while he did nothing for the babies, he spent money without stint to eradicate hog cholera and cattle tick; that he sent his agents all over the country in Fords to advise farmers how to cure sick chickens. What is held against him is not that he did these things but that he did nothing for the babies. That was good propa-

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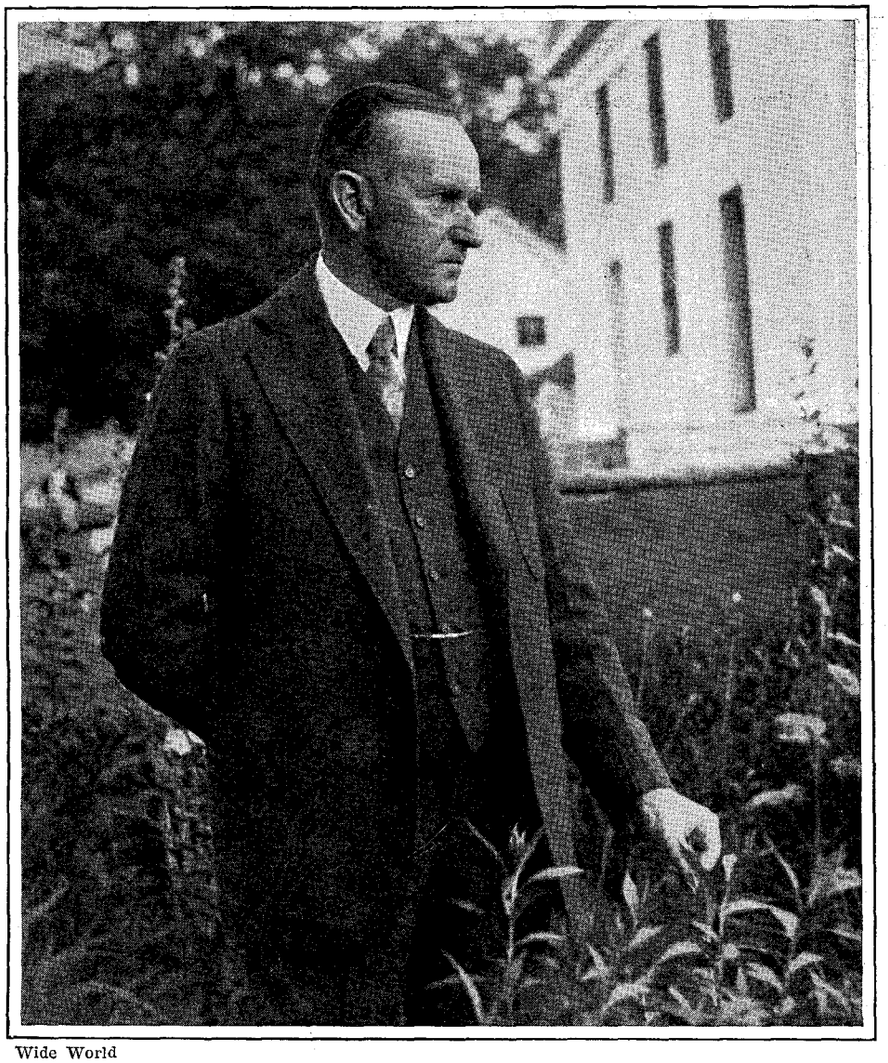

Wide World

President Coolidge in the garden of his old home at Plymouth, Vermont

ganda at the time when the Children's Bureau was to be established but, now that it has been established, the statement should be made in the old gentleman's behalf that he never was wholly unmindful of the babies.

It is true that Uncle Sam spent, and still spends, considerable sums of money in the development of hogs—but he insisted, for the babies' sake, that the hog be free of the deadly trachina. To that and similar ends, he inspected every hog before it was slaughtered and every ham and shoulder and side before it went out into inter-State commerce. He spent—and still spends—a lot of money on farmers' cattle, but he always has insisted that the cows he develops shall squirt no germs of tuberculosis into the baby's milk bottle. And so with most money spent on hogs and cows.

Concerning that ubiquitous county farm demonstration agent who went—and still goes—about in a Ford advising farmers, something else is to be said. He had—and still has—a sister. She is called the county home demonstration agent and she, too, has a Ford. She was the pioneer in health and hygiene work for Uncle Sam, for, while her main job was to teach cooking and housekeeping, she taught health cooking and sanitary housekeeping—with an eye especially on the baby. True, she was not particularly well trained as a specialist in child welfare work—she was too much of a general utility horse to be a specialist in anything—but she did her best. She is undoubtedly glad to have the trained health nurse of the Children's Bureau relieve her of one of her numerous tasks but she would not be entirely happy under the implication that Uncle Sam took no thought of the babies.

Indeed, all nephews and nieces owe something more than most of them realize to Uncle Sam's work with pigs and cows. Some of the safeguards of human health have been developed in that way. And if Seaman A. Knapp—a hard-headed, cranky old farmer—had not "sold" the demonstration idea to Uncle Sam, the Children's Bureau demonstrators might never have been. The Children's Bureau might never have been because there would have been nothing to demonstrate and therefore no work for Doctor and Nurse and "Injun Bill."

Coolidge, the Jeffersonian

JOHN W. DAVIS was speaking recently before the Virginia Bar Association, in session at Virginia Hot Springs. He spoke of Thomas Jefferson—not a eulogy, for Mr. Davis never indulges in fine words as such, but a reflection upon what Jefferson's principles have meant to America. Davis believes that Jefferson, more than any other man, has influenced the daily thought of the people of the United States. Without the teachings of Jefferson, he believes, the social life of Americans could not be what it is to-day.

That John W. Davis should say such things is not remarkable. It is in the natural order and, of itself, hardly provocative of comment. Davis was born into the Jefferson tradition. He has been a deep student of Jefferson and Jeffersoniana. He was, only two years ago, the nominee for the Presidency of that party which always has declared itself the party of Jefferson and the guardian of his teachings.

But, one day before Davis spoke at Hot Springs, the man who defeated him for the Presidency spoke by radio to an audience in Denver, gathered to celebrate the semi-centennial of Colorado's admission to statehood. Calvin Coolidge is the leader of a party which never has appealed to Jefferson as the source of its inspiration. It is commonly thought that the Republican party inherited, through the Whigs from the Federalists, the Hamiltonian principles which are supposed to be antagonistic to the Jeffersonian. But, all of these things notwithstanding, Coolidge preached a better Jeffersonian sermon than did Davis. True, he did not mention the name of Jefferson, but he proclaimed the faith of Jefferson. He said such things as this: "The Nation is inclined to disregard altogether too much both the functions and the duties of the States."

This is not the first time that Mr. Coolidge has preached such a gospel. The spirit of it has permeated many of his recent utterances. He has shown himself, during the past three years, to

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be very much of a devotee of certain of the principles of Jefferson. It has never been true, of course, that Republicans have opposed all of the principles advocated by Jefferson. But, on the other hand, it has rarely been true before that a Republican, occupying that exalted station which Mr. Roosevelt once called "a bully pulpit," found it expedient to say, in effect, that the Federal Government should turn back to the States some of the functions which it now performs.

Mr. Coolidge is not alone among the members of his party in finding a new significance in the school of thought of which Jefferson was the leader.

Perhaps it has never been true that this and the other school were antagonistic. But it perhaps is true that the two ideals could not be carried to realization at the same time. In very large measure, the Jeffersonian ideal has waited while the Federalist ideal has been carried as near to realization as it may safely be. There are few thinking men to-day who would say that, in the abstract, there should be any further centralization of power in Washington. Yet, in the concrete, men are advocating it, and that successfully, all the time. Never a session of Congress passes but that some addition is made to the bureaucracy of the National Capital.

It is very likely true that Mr. Coolidge arrived at his present convictions, not by pondering the abstract principles of the old schools of political thought but by facing, day in and day out, the concrete fact that the Federal Government has assumed functions requiring expenditures so large as to threaten, in the long run, the safety of our institutions. But it is small matter how the alarm came. The important thing is that the man in the position of supreme authority is alarmed.

The piling up of board upon board, bureau upon bureau, department upon department in the Federal Government must come to an end, and that shortly. And, when the Federal Government once stops gobbling up the functions of the States, it will almost certainly have to regurgitate some of those it has already swallowed.

Mr. Coolidge has proved himself a great practical economist. But the money he has saved so far is as pennies to pounds compared to what might be saved by shearing the Government of its convenience functions and leaving it only its necessity functions.

The Denmark Disaster

THE Naval Court of Inquiry sitting on the Lake Denmark disaster has rendered its report. The findings of the Court exonerate everyone from any charge of negligence or bad judgment and recommend suitable Naval honors for the officers and men who sacrificed their lives in line of duty.

There are certain details of the findings of the Court which are of direct interest to those who read the questions raised by Harold T. Pulsifer in his article entitled "Etiquette and Ammunition" which was published in The Outlook of two weeks ago.

The Court of Inquiry declares flatly that "there is no evidence of loaded and fuzed projectiles exploding with high order detonation." In this connection the following statements from the report of the Board appear to be of interest:

> That temporary magazines 8 and 9, and shell house 22 contained large quantities of cast TNT in depth charges or aerial bombs.
>
> That lightning crashed within the ammunition depot or near the southwest end thereof at about 5:15 P.M.
>
> That almost immediately thereafter black smoke was seen issuing from the northeast side of temporary magazine No. 8.
>
> That about 5:20 P.M. a tremendous detonation occurred at the scene of the fire.
>
> That the contents of other buildings in the immediate vicinity were quickly ignited by embers, missiles, or by the direct heat effects of the blast.
>
> That two large craters were formed on the site of temporary magazine No. 8, which building, together with its foundations, has entirely disappeared.
>
> That a large crater of later origin was formed on the site of temporary magazine No. 9, and that this building also, together with its foundations, has entirely disappeared.
>
> That a large triple crater was formed on the site of shell house No. 22 and this building together with its foundation has entirely disappeared. The vicinage of this building is covered by scattered projectiles and other missiles from this shell house are found scattered about the ground within a radius of about half a mile.

The report of the Board states that TNT, explosive "D," picric acid in standard packages, and smokeless powder burned without detonation.

Since the magazines 8, 9, and shell house 22 entirely disappeared in the explosion and since the Board makes no statement as to whether or not the shells, mines, and depth charges in these places were stored with or without fuzes, there seems to be a point or two which is not made clear at least to the general public.

Although the Board finds that no one was to blame for the disaster it makes certain recommendations which would indicate that some things were left undone which might have been done. The first recommendation of the Board is that early action be taken to segregate "cast TNT in bombs, depth charges, mines or other similar containers, from all other explosives or stores." Is it fair to ask if a fuze is an explosive and whether or not this recommendation covers the removal of fuzes from stored ammunition in the future?

Since the publication of Mr. Pulsifer's article we have received a letter from Rear Admiral Bloch, Chief of the Bureau of Naval Ordnance. He points out that the Navy Department answered Mr. Pulsifer's telegrams as fully as possible. This fact is cordially and freely recognized. Admiral Bloch says:

> The Navy Department has been dealing with the stowage of ammunition over a long period of time and its regulations in regard thereto are the result of careful study and experience; this study and experience not being confined to that of the Navy but also to that of the Army, explosive manufacturers, transportation companies, and foreign countries.
>
> In regard to the Army, please understand that the Bureau of Ordnance of the Navy Department keeps in the closest possible touch with the Ordnance Department of the Army. We have periodic meetings and we have complete and full exchange of information, both as regards design and technique.
>
> Necessarily, the ordnance material of the two services is unlike; this is true as relates to fuzes. While it might be safe to stow projectiles with certain fuzes, it would be equally unsafe to stow them with fuzes having a radically different design.
>
> A second implication in your article is that the attitude of the War Department differs from the Navy Department as regards fuzed ammunition. I think that you are in serious error there and that no such inference can be drawn from the replies given to you by the officials of the War Department.
>
> The principal danger with loaded and fuzed ammunition is from the heat generated by a fire in its proximity. After a fire has been burning for some time, and loaded ammunition, whether it be shell, depth charges, mines or airplane bombs, is heated for

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a few minutes there is serious danger of detonation. This danger is not imparted to the ammunition by the presence of the fuze, nor does the fuze have any influence on it.

Apparently this is what happened at Lake Denmark; the fire was started in the building containing depth charges and airplane bombs; it burned sufficiently long to heat this material until a detonation was caused. This detonation was severe enough to break in the walls and destroy the roofs of other buildings, thereby exposing their contents to fire from small sparks and burning material thrown by the first detonation, then the fire spread rapidly all over the station.

Admiral Bloch feels that Mr. Pulsifer's article did a great injustice to both the Army and Navy "in implying that these two departments were more concerned with etiquette than with the safety of ammunition."

We do not think that Admiral Bloch is wholly correct in finding this implication in Mr. Pulsifer's article. No one familiar with the standards of the Army and Navy would imply that either arm of the service placed etiquette above human life. We feel, however, that in a disaster of the magnitude of that at Lake Denmark, it would have been well if Army officers as well as Navy officers had sat upon the Board of Inquiry, that their combined experience might have been brought to bear on the tremendous problems involved at the outset, instead of waiting until the immediate findings could be referred to higher authorities.

One more word. In a special dispatch to the New York "Times," the Acting Secretary of War, Colonel MacNider, is quoted as saying to Mayor Jackson of Baltimore, who had manifested a natural alarm concerning the situation in the Curtis Bay Arsenal near his city, that work has been begun "to remove explosive charges from large caliber ammunition there." By telegraph we asked Secretary MacNider to confirm this report. He has wired that the work has not been started but the removal is under consideration by a Board of officers. Will the Board decide to remove the fuzes, the main charges, or both? We shall be interested to learn.

War Stoppers

SCIENTISTS at the annual Institute of Politics in Williamstown, Massachusetts, have been making some highly suggestive statements about chemistry as a force in molding world affairs and doing away with some of the causes of war. The chemists, they hope, may be able to abolish the conflict for fuel oil fields which so frequently threatens such peace as the world nowadays seems to enjoy.

"A few experts, particularly in Germany," asserted R. T. Haslam, Professor of Chemical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "have advanced the hope of a better order in the world by discovering ways to extract oil from coal." Sir James Colquhoun Irvine, Professor of the University of St. Andrews, Scotland, and member of the British Advisory Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, supported Professor Haslam. He declared that England had rendered herself independent of foreign oil fields by making synthetic oil. He explained that the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research had investigated the German process for extracting oil from coal, and that oils were being secured from low grade shales by highly economical methods.

To most people, who know little about the progress of industrial chemistry, these are revelations which sound most encouraging. To be sure, they were challenged by certain practical critics—for instance, H. L. Doherty of New York, well known as a promoter of petroleum industries, who denied the possibility of extracting oil from coal in commercial quantities. A nation with large coal resources, it appears, might supply its emergency needs in war, when cost is a secondary consideration; but, at least at present, synthetic petroleum is not an economical substitute for natural petroleum in industry and trade.

Even if it were, the scientists still would have to discover a method for making men and nations more sweetly reasonable about the possession and use of coal and coal shale fields than they have been about petroleum and oil shale fields. Here is a chance for the psychologists to aid and abet the pacific purposes of the chemists. The idea that the extraction of oil from coal would do away with conflicts over fuel resources seems to be based upon a common disregard of the reasons why nations fight. They fight because they have a will to insist on their own view of their own rights and interests rather than submit or arbitrate. Growth of population and increasing use of fuel oil may be expected to make the control of coal shale fields as important as the control of petroleum fields. Why would not nations—unless they become much more rational and restrained in their policies and actions than they have been hitherto—go to war as readily about the one as about the other?

Professor Charles K. Leith, the geologist, of the University of Wisconsin, is thinking along more fundamental lines in his arguments for some sort of international conference and convention regarding the control of raw material resources. But the historians, according to recent accounts of their activities, are more likely to discourage war than the scientists.

Twelve years ago, when the combat was spreading over earth and sea and into the air, American scholars began an "Economic and Social History of the World War." This was an endeavor to follow and describe only the disturbances in the processes of civilization caused by the Great Struggle. Eight years have been spent in collecting and co-ordinating data on this phase of the war. The study does not include the military and naval or the diplomatic and political history of the war. Yet this work alone, it is reported, will require 150 volumes, not counting international surveys and general conclusions. The source books and documents on which these volumes are based would require 200 miles of shelves to file. And these in turn were selected from vastly greater numbers of puublications which it was necessary to consider—enough to fill many more hundreds of miles of shelves. Altogether, this war history and the source material with which its authors have had to deal would probably, it is suggested, stretch the whole length of the western front. It is guaranteed to give anyone who stops to think seriously of it for a moment a headache that will last for a day.

Inevitably there occurs the idea of the way to make histories the best guarantee against another war. Stack the Allied and American volumes up along the line of the armistice front in Belgium and France. Get the Germans to do the same on their side with the interminable arguments about war guilt and all the rest of their talk. Do the same on the other fronts. Then leave the barricades of volumes there as a sign and a warning for all time. If there were a threat of another European war, the mobilized armies would take one look at the assembled histories of the latest one—and turn around and go home.

Then indeed historians might have the

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opportunity of compiling the account of the "last war." It should be cast in concrete blocks to be set up as mile posts along all the final frontiers of the world.

Church and State in Mexico

THE article in this issue of The Outlook by the Rev. John A. Ryan, a distinguished Catholic theologian and educator, deals clearly and forcibly with what he terms in his title "The Religious Persecution in Mexico." Father Ryan cites various acts and orders of the Calles rule that he regards as such infringements of personal liberty and religious and educational freedom as would not be tolerated in the United States. This view is strongly affirmed also in a statement by Archbishop José Mora y del Rio, titular head of the Catholic church in Mexico, published by the New York "World." For instance, the Archbishop says:

> A Catholic priest, according to the Constitution of 1917, is considered a professional man, notwithstanding he is not granted the rights which men in any other profession have. He cannot own, cannot inherit, cannot direct a school, cannot give his opinion, has no right to vote in an election, neither can he be elected, nor can he use in the street his ecclesiastical robe.

The counter-claim of the Government is from its nature not so easy to frame in concrete form. It is that from early days on to the present the Church has tried to carry on a State within a State; that through acceptance by ignorant Catholics of its authority and pervasive influence, it has in political matters always been on the side of reactionary ideas and opposed to the spread of democratic principles; and that it stands to-day in the path of that advance in the condition of the many millions of Mexican workers which the present Liberal party (or Radical party, if you choose) now in power is trying to promote.

Thus, this contest in its broad lines is what has gone on historically whenever secular authority has found, or believed, that it was undermined by insidious use through religious channels of propaganda not properly of a religious nature. The result has been in the past that the power and freedom of action of the old church have been limited by drastic measures not always in keeping with the degree of liberalism existing in the time and country. For instance, in America there is nothing whatever to interfere with the founding of a monastery or convent, but in England, France, Germany, and even Spain and Italy, and now in Mexico, monasteries have been suppressed in whole or part. In a way this may be interference with personal liberty, but these countries have thought it a necessity. So, too, with undue church control by foreign ecclesiastics. There is nothing new in governmental interference in that direction.

What we would like to see in Mexico, and what in time we may see, is not only tolerance in both directions, but a wholehearted unity of effort between President and priest, congressmen and churches, in the spread of intelligence and civic responsibility among the common people. To build up a nation capable of wise self-government will be a slow and halting task, but at least the country should turn its face in that direction.

Three Impressions of the Northwest

By LAWRENCE F. ABBOTT
Contributing Editor of The Outlook

SOME of the readers of these pages may have already gleaned the interesting if unimportant news that I have recently completed a rapid journey from New York to the mouth of the Columbia River in Oregon and back again. Two weeks was devoted to the journey. When, more than a hundred years ago, Lewis and Clark, among the first American discoverers of the Columbia, made their famous and adventurous expedition to the same point, the achievement took them nearly two years and the records of their experiences and discoveries fill eight large volumes. No one can expect me to report any astonishing discoveries in a journalistic article of three or four columns. Nor can I promise any accuracy as to facts and figures. I am neither an astronomer like David Thompson nor a naturalist like Meriwether Lewis.

In my rapid journey I passed over portions of five great Northwestern States—North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. There is in my mind a kaleidoscopic picture of prairies, wheat fields, mountains, rivers, lakes, forests, Indians, and thriving and progressive cities. Out of this vast canvas I shall select merely three impressions, one educational, one industrial, and one scenic, to pass along to whomever they may interest.

A Dakota University

ON the banks of the Red River, the eastern boundary of North Dakota, lies the pleasant city of Grand Forks. How old it is I do not know. I forgot to ask during my visit. But it is old enough to have a well-ripened seat of learning, the University of North Dakota. To one stepping off a midsummer railway train its green and well shaded campus was as refreshing as the Harvard Yard. It has an excellently equipped library which speaks well for its love of literature. But the State authorities and the Faculty, I am glad to say, evidently think that the function of education is not limited merely to collecting and imparting the records of the past. A university, especially a State university, has an equal duty to prepare its students for the future. In this respect the University of North Dakota is doing its duty well. I am not sure but that it is doing it in a unique fashion.

North Dakota has two natural resources as yet only partly developed—great beds of kaolin, or pottery clay, and of lignite, or imperfectly formed coal. The University at Grand Forks is making a study of these two resources both theoreticaly and practically. Its students and professors are investigating processes for making the kaolin and lignite commercially profitable. From the kaolin they are producing pottery which in color and form has artistic charm. They are not only discovering how the lignite may be made more combustible but they are extracting dyes from it which in time may be very valuable to the textile industry. One of the advantages of this kind of research is that it involves a study of chemistry, geology, anthropolgy, and the history of art. Thus the students are getting a liberal as well as a vocational education.

This is as it should be. One of the defects of American education in the past has been that the academicians have drawn an artificial line between institu-

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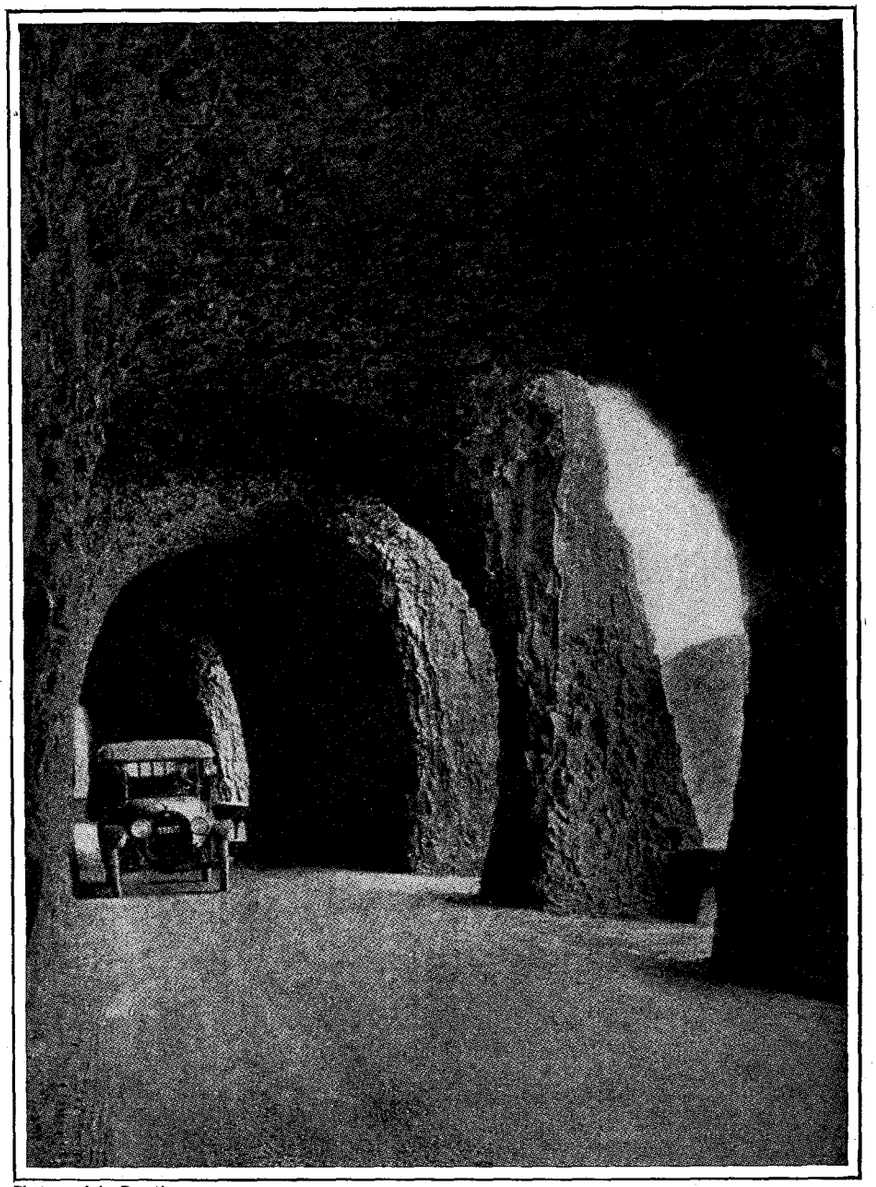
tions of so-called liberal culture and institutions of technical training. There is no such line. Science, art, and industry are intertwined in actual life and they should be in education. While at the University of North Dakota I heard and saw a demonstration of pottery making by Miss Cable of the Department of Ceramics. Her spoken extempore lecture, while she manipulated the clay on the potter's wheel, was a fine exemplification of the way in which literary culture and technical training may be combined. The State government ought to be proud of its University, proud enough I hope not to interfere too much with its courses of instruction. Political interference has been the bane of our State universities as inbreeding and self-satisfaction have been the bane of our endowed institutions. I am sure my friend Governor Sorlie of North Dakota will not object to this friendly hint. He knows from experience what a fine product the University of North Dakota turns out.

A Montana Industrial City

RIVERS have been the arteries of Northwestern life. As Grand Forks, Dakota, was created by the Red River of the North so Great Falls, Montana, was created by the splendid water power of the Upper Missouri. I happen to know how old Great Falls is for a little history of the place, which lies before me as I write, tells me that its site was first surveyed and named in 1883 by Paris Gibson. Here is another instance where academic education and industry are knit together, for Paris Gibson was a graduate of Bowdoin College in the State of Maine. Great Falls is now the site of one of the huge plants of the Anaconda Copper Company. But it was not this great monument of industrial enterprise that most interested me. It was the fact that I stepped off the train into a beautiful park. I do not know of any city in America, not even Washington, D. C., that has a more beautiful front door than Great Falls. The railroad stations of most American small towns—it is certainly true of the small town on the Hudson where I am now writing this article—are surrounded by shacks and hovels, grimy factories, coal pockets, lumber yards, and sidings filled with delapidated freight cars. How Great Falls happened to escape this blight was explained to me. It seems that Paris Gibson was "a crank on parks." With the co-operation of the late James J. Hill, the founder of the Great Northern Railway, he plotted parks before he did anything else. Mr. Hill sympathized with him. The result is that you cannot get into the city from the railroad without passing through a green and flowery park filled with trees which have been carefully watered and nurtured and have gratefully responded to the care that has been bestowed upon them. The railway station and its surroundings have scrupulously been made to fit the scene. Great Falls has a population of about 15,000 and has, I believe, more park acreage per capita than any other city in the United States. Industry in Great Falls has been innoculated with the park fever, apparently, for I noticed some parkways and groves of trees about the gigantic Anaconda plant which were a refreshing contrast to the horrors of Gary, Indiana. The citizens of Great Falls like not only handsome parks but handsome newspapers as well, and they have one in the "Daily Tribune." As an Easterner of Yankee extraction I am happy to think that New England has played a creditable part in the development of Great Falls. As I have already said, its founder and first mayor was a graduate of Bowdoin and the publisher of its newspaper is a graduate of Dartmouth. Some of the quiet beauty of Brunswick, Maine, and Hanover, New Hampshire, have thus been transplanted to the banks of the Missouri.



Photograph by Prentiss

The Mitchell Point Tunnel on the Columbia River Highway

A Wonderful Driveway

PORTLAND, Oregon, prides itself on being a city of roses, a just pride and properly maintained. But I have seen beautiful roses elsewhere—at Nice and Cannes, on the Riviera, for example, and

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in some of the great gardens of England. But nowhere, neither at Lucerne nor at Monte Carlo, have I taken a more superb automobile trip than from Portland to Multnomah Falls on the Columbia River Highway. While the distance between these two points is about thirty miles, I am told that I saw only a small portion of the beauties of this incomparable highway. It wrenches me to use the adjective "incomparable" because I am writing this at the northern terminus of the Storm King Highway on the Hudson. Picturesque and rugged as the Storm King Highway is we have nothing like Crown Point or the Swiss-like cascades of the Columbia River Highway. If I lose any Hudson River Valley subscribers to The Outlook by making this confession I hope some of my Portland friends will make it up to me. Just as one goes to Chamonix to see Mont Blanc so one ought to go to Portland to see the Columbia River Highway. It is a wonderful combination of the majesty of nature and the engineering art of man. And it teaches the lesson which we are slowly learning in this country that beauty can be capitalized into a profitable asset.

The Religious Persecution in Mexico

By the Rev. JOHN A. RYAN, D. D.

UNDER the guise of revising the penal code of Mexico, President Calles promulgated June 14, 1926, a series of regulations and penalties for the enforcement of the anti-religious clauses of the Constitution of 1917. These prescriptions make no substantive addition to the Constitution itself. Some of them do little more than amplify its language. Probably their most notable feature is the extreme penalties imposed for their violation; for example, any minister of religion who advocates disobedience to the laws or to public authorities receives six years in prison and a heavy fine, while mere criticism of the authorities will bring a prison term of from one to five years. However, neither the regulations themselves nor the penalties which they include are of primary importance. They merely intensify the situation which had been produced by the organic law. They mark the determination by the government to enforce those constitutional restraints upon religion which had previously been carried into effect only in part and intermittently.

The present unhappy struggle is, therefore, over the constitutional restrictions upon the exercise of religion. Although these have been described frequently in our newspapers and magazines, it will be helpful to recount a few of them here. All churches are appropriated by the government, which reserves the right to determine how many of them shall be used for religious purposes. The various states of the Mexican Union can fix the maximum number of ministers of any creed. No religious body may establish or conduct educational institutions. No religious instruction may be given in primary schools, either public or private. No religious corporation may conduct institutions for the sick and needy. Religious vows, monastic orders and convents are prohibited. No minister of religion may criticise the fundamental laws, or the government, nor may any religious periodical publish anything concerning the political authorities. No clergyman may vote or hold office. No person charged with violating any of the anti-religious clauses of the Constitution may be accorded the right of trial by jury.

Every one of the rights which are destroyed by these provisions is not only respected by statue law in the United States, but is guarded against statutory infringement by our Federal and State constitutions. Religious activities which are matters of constitutional right in the United States are specifically prohibited in the constitutional system of Mexico.

Why did the men who made the Mexican Constitution of 1917 insert these tyrannical prohibitions? Why is the present Mexican government carrying them into effect? Although I have read most of the answers to these questions which have been published in the last six months, I am unable to find any that is convincing. In the New York "Times" for August 1, President Calles attempts to justify both the constitutional provisions and his regulations for their enforcement. His defense is not even plausible. For example: he asserts that the regulation requiring registration of the churches with the local authorities was mainly for the purpose of "compiling statistics"; that foreign clergymen are excluded from the exercise of religious functions in the interest of "professional competency"; that the prohibition of religious services outside the Churches was intended to prevent "constant political upheaval;" and that the abolition of monastic orders is not unreasonable, since these "are not indispensible to religion."

The defenses issued by other representatives of the Mexican Government are equally unconvincing. They contain plentiful references to the alleged failure of the Church to educate the Mexican people, plentiful charges that the Church has meddled in politics and a plentiful use of such terms as "reactionary," "conservative," "stagnant," and "unprogressive" to characterize the attitude of the Mexican Church. But they cite no convincing facts. They scarcely pretend to submit evidence relating to the conduct of the Mexican Church during the last half century. It must be remembered that the present Constitution was written in the year 1917; yet its apologists cite no action of the Mexican Church or its ministers in recent years which gives even a plausible excuse for the anti-religious provisions. Occasionally the charge is somewhat vaguely made that these clauses were intended to protect the industrial and agricultural provisions of the Constitution against clerical interference. But no specific testimony is brought forward. No decent attempt is made to show that the Mexican Church opposed these economic proposals either before or after they were put into the Constitution.

Indeed, it is a fair question to ask what relation exists between economic reforms and the prohibition of religious instruction in primary schools, the ownership of churches, or any of the other anti-religious articles. Taken as a whole, these provisions clearly manifest the intention of crippling if not destroying the general power and influence of the Church.

The explanations or palliations occasionally offered by American liberals are likewise lacking in cogency. In a recent address, which was in other respects not unsympathetic to the Mexican Church, the Rev. Hubert C. Herring declared that the conflict in Mexico was "between a forward-looking nation which is demanding new life and new hope and a Church that has settled down to a barren and dead conservatism which lacks social sympathy." This is a resounding mouthful of language, but in the absence

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A Christian Church upon a pagan pyramid. This is the dramatic location of the Roman Catholic Church in Cholula, in the State of Puebla, Mexico

of specific support it means absolutely nothing. Indeed, we may well doubt whether its author had any clear ideas in his mind which would give substance to this verbiage.

All the explanations of the persecution which I have seen offered by Catholics are similarly inconclusive. According to one Catholic authority, the Mexican politicians want to render the Church helpless so that they can with impunity steal and plunder from the state, from Mexican individuals, and from American owners of property in Mexico. This is entirely too simple. Like the general charges against the Mexican Church, it is not accompanied by a statement of specific facts. Other Catholics have suggested that the men responsible for the anti-religious clauses in the Constitution and for the present attempt to enforce them, are actuated by sheer hatred of religion. Now, hatred of religion for its own sake, independently of the actions or attitude of its ministers, is not an unknown phenomenon. Nevertheless it has been pretty rare in history, and no facts have been offered to show that it is general among the persecuting officials of Mexico. Finally, we are told that the explanation is to be found in the Communist doctrines held by the men who made the 1917 Constitution and their successors. This would be adequate if the majority or the dominant element in these groups were believers in Communism, but no convincing testimony is offered in support of the charge.

Therefore, I am still seeking a satisfactory explanation of the anti-religious clauses of the Mexican Constitution and the anti-religious persecution carried on by the Mexican Government.

What I know is that these things are contrary to all the principles of genuine liberalism. What I know is that, on the whole, American liberals have done themselves little credit in their attitude toward the unhappy situation in Mexico. The majority of them have been silent, or evasive, or false to the principles of liberalism. Prominent liberals have grudgingly conceded that the restrictions on clerical freedom of speech and freedom of the religious press are indefensible; but they apparently see no violation of fundamental rights and liberties in that constitutional provision which compels a minister of religion to officiate in a building which the state may close at any time because it claims to be the owner thereof; or in the provisions which forbid clergymen to conduct schools and deprive parents of the right to have their children receive religious instruction in even private schools; or in the provision which empowers a state to limit the number of clergymen, under the authority of which one state permits only one priest for every thirty thousand persons; or in the provision which forbids a person to take religious vows or join with his fellows in a monastic society. Indeed, most of the American liberals who have spoken on the question show that they believe only in those individual liberties that they would like to exercise themselves, such as freedom of speech and of the press. Concerning fundamental liberties in which they are not personally interested they are indifferent.

There is good reason to believe that this indifference is in no small degree responsible for the continuation of the sad conditions in Mexico. Were all American liberals to put aside religious prejudice, mental laziness, and ignoble caution, and to speak out plainly against the violation of the principles of liberalism in Mexico, the present masters of that unhappy land would quickly find a way to discontinue their persecution of religion.

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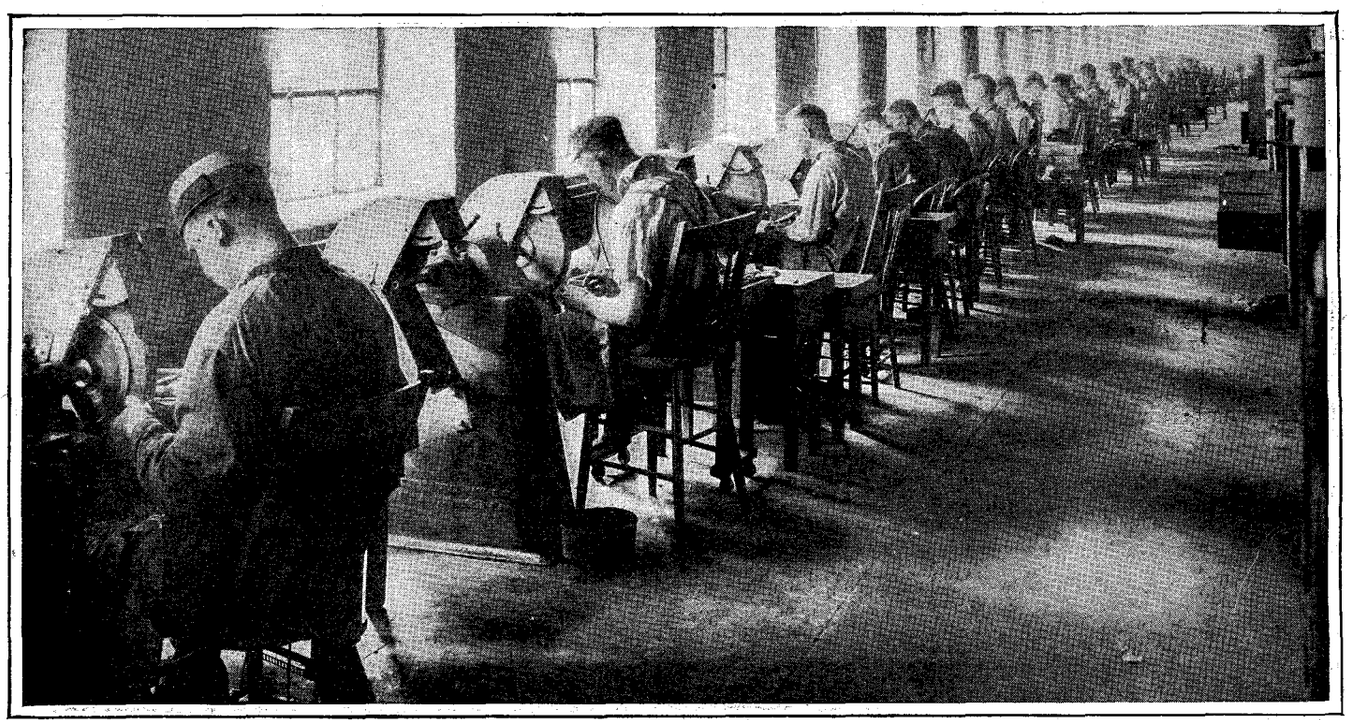


Photograph from Remington Typewriter Co.

Polishing wheels equipped for dust removal

Each wheel is covered with a hood, connected by a duct with a suction fan. The current of air draws the dust away from the worker and carries it out of the building

The New Ethics of the Dust

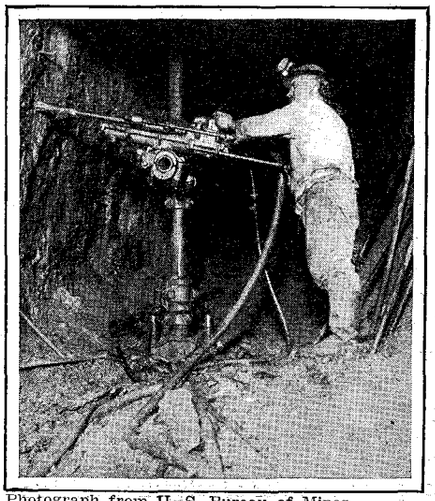
By CHARLES FITZHUGH TALMAN

FORMERLY the "dusty trades" claimed their unnumbered victims, and nothing was done about it. When sanitarians and engineers set to work to improve this situation, they discovered that the industrial-dust problem was vastly more complex than anybody had realized.

Misleading generalizations on this subject are still prevalent. Last winter the American public breathed an inordinate amount of soft-coal dust, and the fear was widely expressed that pulmonary troubles might result from the experience. Those persons who sought enlightenment from the vital statistics of the industry in which great quantities of such dust are breathed day after day were doubtless surprised to discover that coal miners are strikingly free from consumption, though they do suffer from some acute respiratory diseases.

An industry that affords even more paradoxical health statistics is cement-making. No business is conducted in a dustier atmosphere, yet men thrive at it. Among the workers themselves the opinion prevails that cement dust is actually good for the lungs—which may or may not be true. Still other occupations in which superabundant dust is produced have no bad records for diseases that might plausibly be ascribed to breathing dusty air.

How can this be true when it is notorious that men die like flies at stone-cutting, rock-drilling, metal-grinding, and many other dusty trades unless the utmost care is taken to protect their lungs from dust? The explanation offered by contemporary authorities is that nature has provided for the removal of some kinds of dust from the lungs, but not all. In the one case the invading dust particles have the same effect as bacteria in stimulating the production and activity of those busy scavengers of the blood, the phagocytes, by which they are devoured and carried off. In the other case the phagocytes remain inert in the presence of the invaders, which soon accumulate in harmful numbers. The chemical composition of the dust rather than its physical characteristics, such as hardness and sharpness, is evidently the factor that determines whether or not it will be removed by phagocytic action. It is found, however, that when dangerous and non-dangerous dusts are inhaled together, both are eliminated by this process. Thus silica dust, produced in the drilling and cutting of granite, flint, and sandstone, causes a high phthisis death rate among men who work with these materials alone, but not among the workers in coal mines, where as much as seventy per cent of such dust, from adjacent rock seams, is sometimes present mixed with coal dust. One authority has suggested that in places where it is impossible to prevent the inhalation of silica dust its harmful effects might be minimized or even prevented by mixing with it a dust,



Photograph from U. S. Bureau of Mines

Drill with water-jet attachment to allay dust

The larger tube supplies compressed air to operate the drill; the smaller one supplies water, which passes with air under pressure through the drill steel to the bottom of the hole

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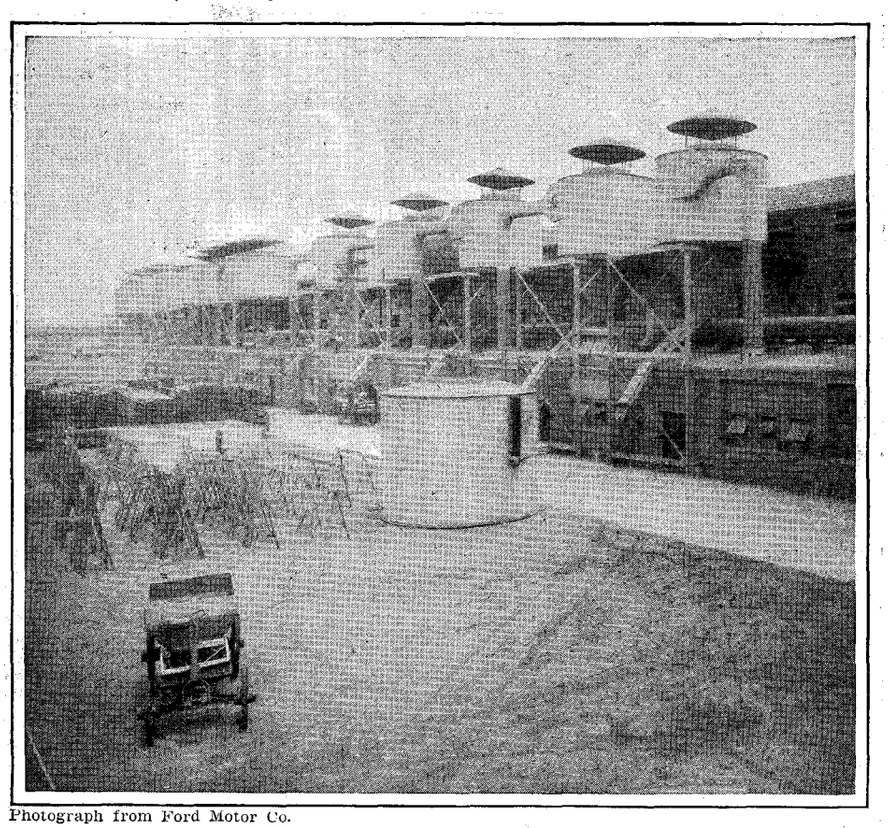
such as coal dust, that excites the action of the phagocytes.

Though some dusts have thus turned out to be less black than they once were painted, the balance has been more than restored by the discovery of previously unsuspected dust hazards in long-established processes of industry, and by the introduction of many new hazards, especially in the shape of poisonous dusts and fumes, including eye and skin irritants, in the many industrial processes brought forth from year to year. The new dangers often remain unrecognized until they have caused a tragic amount of death and suffering. Dust is always bad for machinery, even when it does not harm mankind. Lastly, we have learned in recent years that coal dust and many factory dusts are dangerously explosive when mixed with certain proportions of air. Coal dust is now recognized as the chief culprit in colliery explosions, even when the initial blast is due to gas. Explosive grain dust, flour, sugar, sulphur, and several other powdery products of industry are responsible for a heavy toll of death and wreckage every year.

Science and technology are waging a far-flung battle against the many-sided evil of industrial dust, though less is heard about it than about the closely



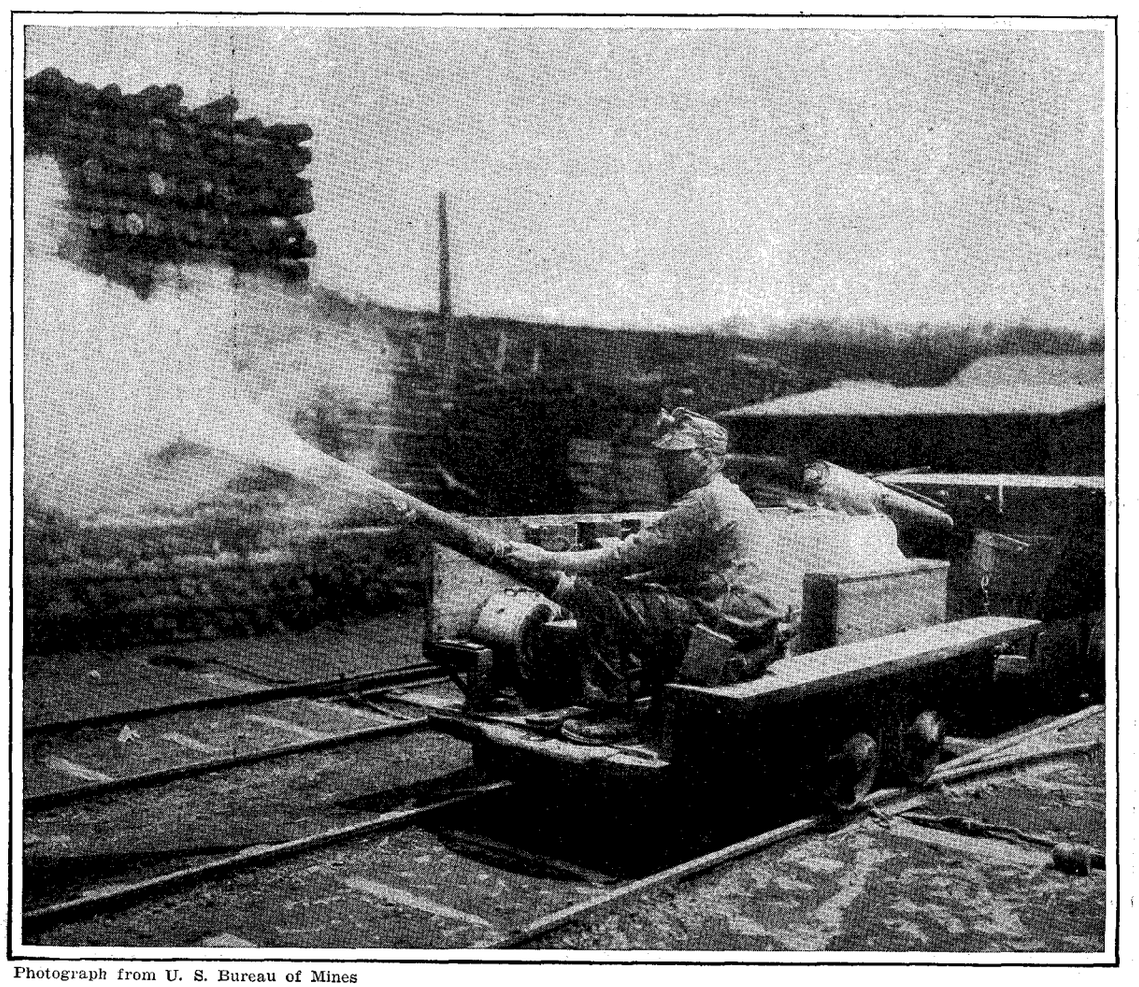
Photograph from Ford Motor Co.

Battery of dust and trash collectors at a woodworking plant

The wooden body parts of Ford automobiles are made in this building. All chips, shavings, and sawdust are removed by suction fans and carried through pipes to the big cone-shaped hoppers seen along the side of the building. The surplus air escapes from each collector through a vent at the top, while the refuse, separated by centrifugal action, falls into the hopper. It can either be discharged through a chute into a truck or be carried by a conveyor running under the hoppers to the boiler house, where it is utilized as fuel

The new cure for coal-mine explosions

"Rock-dusting" is a process of fighting dust with dust. Accumulations of inflammable coal dust—now recognized as the chief factor in coal-mine explosions—are made harmless by mixture with powdered shale or other kinds of stone that are not injurious to the miners' lungs. The walls, roof, and floor of the mine are kept coated with this protective material, which is applied by hand or by means of such devices as the one here illustrated, in which the rock dust is blown from a nozzle by a rotary fan, driven by an electric motor



Photograph from U. S. Bureau of Mines

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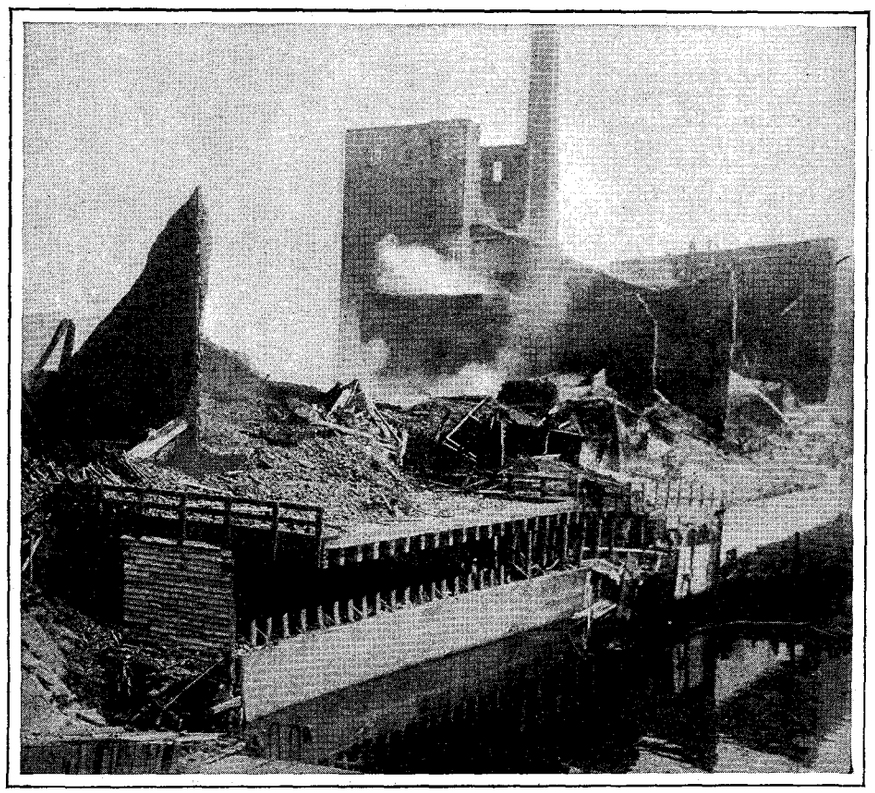
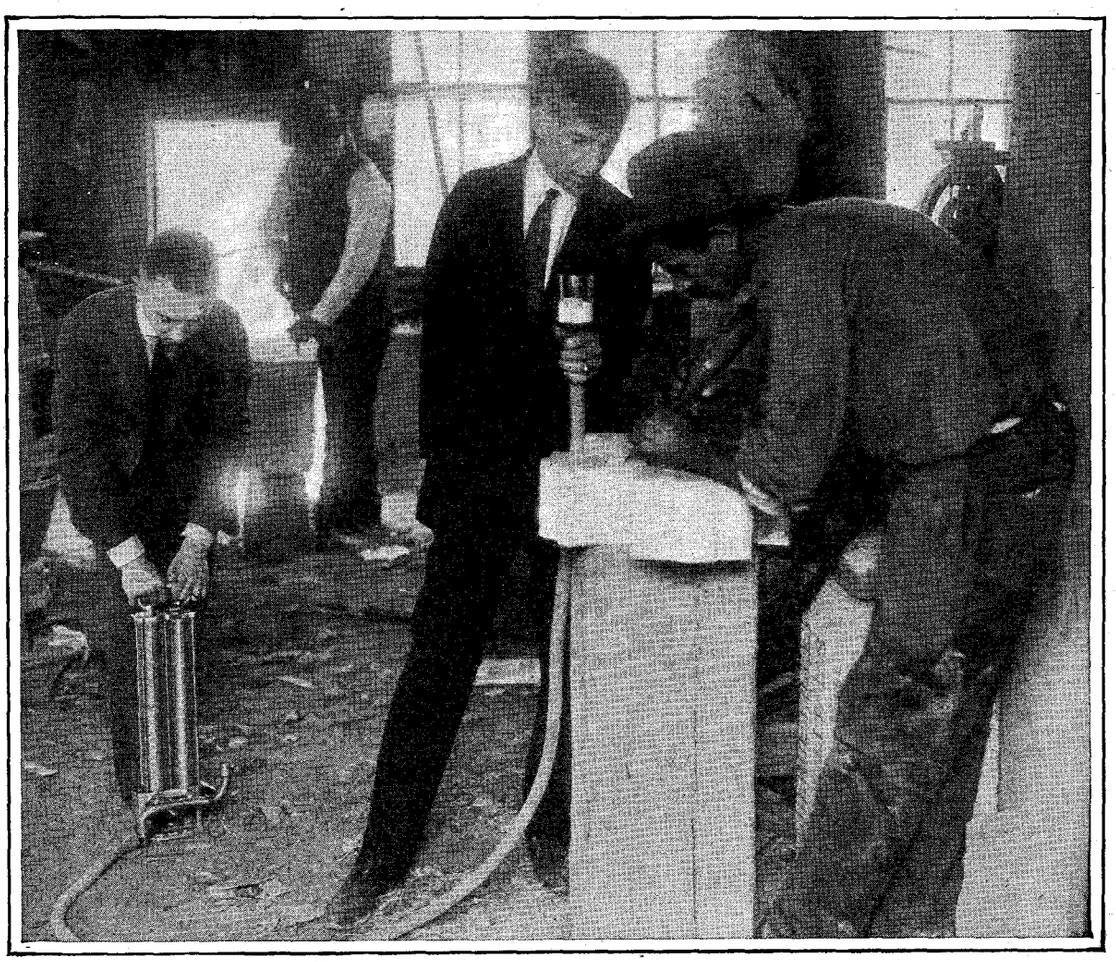


A spectacular phase of the dust hazard in industry

A Brooklyn grain elevator after a dust explosion. During the period from 1919 to 1925 explosions of dust in plants handling grain and grain products caused a loss of 133 lives and property losses of more than $12,000,000 in this country. Cereal dusts, like coal dust and several other kinds of dust occurring in the industries, are explosive when mixed with a certain proportion of air. The dust may be ignited by *open flames, electric sparks, blown fuses, hot bearings, fires caused by spontaneous combustion*, etc. Recent protective measures are directed to the effective removal of dust from the building rather than to the hopeless task of eliminating all causes of ignition

related and partly overlapping campaign against smoke. Our pictures give a few glimpses of the struggle. The practice of covering dust-making machines with hoods and withdrawing the dusty air from them by means of suction fans has become so general that the conical collectors, or so-called "cyclones," in which the dust is deposited, are now familiar sights on the roofs and outer walls of factories. Some years ago the fearful death rate among the South African gold miners was cut down by the introduction of wet-drilling, now the usual process, and widely prescribed by law, wherever quartz is drilled. The electrical precipitation of flue dusts, devised by Cottrell in 1906, serves, like some other dust-collecting processes, the double purpose of averting the harmful effects of dust and recovering its useful constituents, thus raising the dust of an industry to the rank of a valuable by-product.

The process of spreading inert rock dust in coal mines, in order to render the coal dust non-explosive, has been so strikingly successful in England—where it has been applied on a more general scale than in any other country—that its introduction is rated scarcely second to Davy's invention of the safety-lamp among the advances that tend to rob coal mining of its dangers.



Photograph from U S Bureau of Mines

Measuring the dustiness of the air in a stonecutting plant

A definite volume of air is drawn by a pump through a layer of sugar, which retains the dust. Later, the sugar is dissolved and the insoluble dust particles are counted under a microscope. The sugar solution is then filtered off, and the dust retained by the filter is weighed on a delicate balance. This is one of several methods of dust sampling based on the filtration process; in addition to which there are scores of methods involving other principles

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Uncle Sam's Nieces and Nephews

They fare well in Arkansas

By JULIA HOUSTON RAILEY

FOR many years Uncle Sam's nieces and nephews, judging by the trend of his interests, would appear to have been pigs and cows! Such, at least, was the impression given. Large sums were spent by an anxious Uncle to eradicate hog cholera and cattle tick—to attack animal diseases and parasites of all sorts; tons of literature have been mailed out in franked envelopes; solicitous Government agricultural agents have driven in Fords all over the country to advise the farmer about breeding, feeding, and dipping his cattle, fattening his hogs, and curing his sick chickens. Uncle Sam seemed quite unaware that there was a child crop being raised yearly in his United States of an importance at least equal to that of his Holsteins and Berkshires.

But one day there came a change in his attitude; his eyes were forcibly opened to his responsibilities as an uncle. The Federal Children's Bureau hung out its shingle in the United States Department of Labor, right under his preoccupied nose, and he became aware for the first time that the health and well-being of children is a Governmental matter, their safeguarding a National duty.

Messrs. Shepherd and Towner have assisted him to a fuller realization of this patent fact. There are States which have not accepted the Federal aid in the field of child hygiene and maternity work extended by the Shepherd-Towner Act, but we wish to tell of one which has—one which is busily whacking away at the root of physical and mental disability in its school-children by methods of organized prevention employed among children of pre-school age. And, lest that should sound too formidable a matter to read about, let us hasten to introduce to you "Indian Bill" of Arkansas, a trusty agent of Uncle Sam's in the avuncular job of caring for nieces and nephews—the picturesque red-skinned driver of the Arkansas Child Hygiene Healthmobile, which pokes its adventurous nose into backwoods and clearings wherever there are children and mothers to gather round it.

A word about "Injun Bill," as the youngsters call him—Bill, the long-haired, swart, and smiling, their friend and handy man. He is an old "show man" of street-carnival fame who could put any patent-medicine faker to blush at his own trade. An odd mechanical genius of sorts, Bill has made marvelous contrivances for the Child Hygiene Bureau to exhibit. One was a *papier-maché* cow that mysteriously gave milk. The milk would fill a glass and then disappear unaccountably, only to pour forth from the cow again a moment later! Another was a miniature railway train—the Child Health Special—stopping at Milkville and other fascinating stations, Sandman's Mountain being the end of its run. The cow and the railway train are now a part of the traveling exhibit on Bill's truck. So is a tiny stage with a house that has unscreened windows, and, leading to them, the air-line route of a typhoid-carrying fly from the back yard ingeniously indicated. The country folk—children and adults—will stand for hours admiring that truck and its wonders; its motion-picture outfit with movies on all sorts of health subjects, its free literature and posters, and so forth—not to mention Bill himself, always the affable and courteous showman.

Doubtless the course of empire at one time took its westward way to the conquest of new frontiers in a horse, mule, or ox drawn prairie schooner, but in Arkansas Health and Hygiene now move forward to the front in "Injun Bill's" automobile truck, preceded by an advance guard of Fords bearing the workers and nurses of the Child Hygiene Bureau. The Bureau, under the progressive State Board of Health, whose executive officer is Dr. C. W. Garrison, is the meeting-place of Uncle Sam and his State of Arkansas. It is jointly supported, was organized and started by a field agent of the Federal Children's Bureau, Dr. Frances Sage Bradley, and is now headed by Dr. Margaret Koenig, with Miss Linnie Beauchamp as supervisor of nursing.

This intrepid lady is the advance agent of the Health Unit. She drives up dried creek beds or hill trails to reach remote rural schools in settlements where her Ford is the first motor vehicle the natives have ever seen. Quite as often, to be sure, she speeds along macadam pikes to prosperous farming communities. Her health message is as welcome in one place as another. The Unit has served every county in the State—there are seventy-five of them, and many have already been covered by the intensive work. In each of these counties a month has been spent, preceded by two weeks of advance organization.

The advance agent has a busy time of it. She goes first to the agencies which have requested that the work be done in their counties. Then she goes to everybody else of prominence in welfare circles. Local people help "boss" every campaign. All sections of the county are visited, for demonstrations will be staged in several localities. Speeches are made, posters tacked up, advance copy released by the local press, rural schools are selected as sites for conferences and exhibits, and the schedule of the whole demonstration is worked out. By the time the health cohorts and "Injun Bill's" truck appear on the scene crowds are ready to gather as for a circus train's unloading.

Bill's showmanship and his motion-picture machine and exhibits lure and hold those whom ordinary health gatherings and clinics would fail to attract.

Promptly the Unit gets down to business. Like the greatest of all social workers, its doctors and nurses "suffer little children to come"—children under school age—in crowds, generally, for, as one sympathizer says, "notwithstanding that Dame Rumor has preceded the truck with wild stories of the cutting out of boy's tongues, the unauthorized removal of teeth, and certain vaccination, curiosity usually overcomes fear and a goodly number of children, both white and black, appear at the clinics."

The most thorough medical examination is first given. "Tonsils," "adenoids," "teeth," "glands," "posture," "nutrition"—these are merely a few of the subheads on the history sheet and record made. One copy is given to the parents, with detailed recommendations; one, to local public health authorities, in default of a family physician, for follow-up work; one is kept for filing. The Unit is not working in competition with local doctors, to whom patients are referred whenever possible, but treated, when not, for some types of disorders.

An eye clinic is held and the eyes of all children are examined, with special reference to trachoma, which, if found, is treated by a specialist from a Government hospital attached to the Unit. In one county an orthopædic specialist, pressed into service by the Unit and assisted by the county physicians, conducted a most successful clinic for crippled children, referring those in need of surgery or prolonged medical treatment to a children's State charitable hospital in the capital.

Tableaus and playlets are sometimes

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staged by school-children in connection with the demonstration, and for months afterwards they are hard at work writing essays about the health "fair" for prize contests.

There is one conference of importance held for expectant mothers, who receive instruction, visual and vocal, in diet and health habits; receive patterns, even, for the baby's layette, and always a series of clever and kindly little booklets, written in a most feminine and friendly tone, which advise at every step upon the proper procedure. If below par physically, a woman is referred to her own doctor or to public health workers for treatment.

Midwives are also called in conference. (The aim is eventually to bring all midwives under the supervision of the State Board of Health. The Bureau has a midwife supervisor, who already has examined all the midwives reported in sixty counties, issuing temporary licenses and barring the unfit from practice.) They prove astonishingly teachable and eager for instruction, often tramping miles to attend a meeting. Vigorous emphasis is laid on the necessity of birth and death registration in their practice and the lesson visualized in a movie.

The most important work done by the Health Unit, however, is not one of special, but of general education of all the people within eye and ear shot of its truck, exhibits, charts, conferences, and clinics. Hundreds are shown a motion picture about malaria, typhoid, tuberculosis, hookworm, or, perhaps, the dangers in bottle feeding of babies. Mothers particularly witness a food exhibit which illustrates methods of preparation and handling food for babies and young children; also a demonstration, with a waterproof doll, of how to bathe and handle a baby properly. Sets of charts teach facts of nutrition, dental hygiene, balanced diet, prenatal care, and mental hygiene. Charts for children have pictures and jingles which they delight to memorize. Thousands of leaflets and pamphlets are distributed.

The Bureau of Child Hygiene has an aim, and that aim might be thus expressed: To bring every child in Arkansas to school age in a state of mind and body that will enable him to develop into a healthy and productive citizen, and thereby to raise the whole physical and mental standard of a State.

The more immediate goal is the establishment of permanent public health units in each county, with a full-time health officer and at least one full-time nurse. If "Injun Bill's" health-armored truck continues its advance upon the hosts of ignorance and disease at its present rate of progress, Uncle Sam may well pat himself and the Board of Health upon the back before long for placing Arkansas as near the head of the list in hygiene as it is alphabetically.

Life Maintained by Electricity Within the Body

Dr. George W. Crile demonstrates a Bi-Polar Theory of Living Processes

By Don C. Seitz

WHEN Napoleon was in exile on St. Helena he once expressed his belief that the brain was an electric battery, and that mankind was strung upon invisible lines from which it derived life and action. Dr. George W. Crile of Cleveland, Ohio, an eminent scientist, has just published, through the Macmillan Company, "A Bi-Polar Theory of Living Processes," giving the outcome of more than thirty years of acute investigation into the mechanics of the human body that will startle the fundamentalist and jar the ordinary pill and potion physician from his smug stagnancy.

"When I was a student in medical school," Dr. Crile says in his introduction, "I came for the first time in contact with the dramatic picture of failing bodily energies and death. The patient was young and strong; every organ of his body was sound; he had lost but little blood although both legs had been crushed by a locomotive. As I watched him slowly sink into death, the mental and physical prostration, the shrunken, pallid face, the cold sweating skin, the fading pulse, fixed the picture in my mind. Autopsy revealed no lesion in any vital organ. Immediately I planned for a research for the purpose of attempting to find what essential mechanism had failed. As I had watched the pulse fading so inevitably I thought that death was due to the want of circulation as the result of heart failure; but what had caused the heart to fail? It was not hemorrhage, but it appeared to me that failure of the circulation, to whatever it was due, must have been the primary cause of death, and this belief directed the course of my initial studies."

Dr. Crile proceeded with his researches in the University College of London under the direction of Sir Victor Horsley, in Cleveland, in war hospitals, in the Western Reserve Medical School, at Lakeside Hospital, and in the research laboratories of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, dating from 1895. "During this long search," he observes, "for the underlying causes of fatigue, exhaustion, and death, data were accumulated which made it apparent that to understand the nature of exhaustion and death, it was necessary to understand the nature of life itself."

He therefore began an exhaustive study of the circulation and respiration, blood chemistry and other phases of life, the result of which was the discovery first, that neither circulation, respiration nor the heart were found to contain primary causes for death from surgical shock, but instead, it was established that nerve-blocking prevented surgical shock, that the direct transfusion of blood was valuable, that stimulants increased fatigue and exhaustion, while morphine, a powerful sedative, minimized both.

The brain and liver were found to be the first to succumb, heart and voluntary muscles being one hundred times more resistant. Dr. Crile, therefore, concluded that brain and liver were key structures. With the aid of M. L. Menton and W. J. Crozier he next investigated the chemistry of the blood as affected by exhaustion. From these studies "came a finding of great chemical importance, namely, that all inhalation anesthetics cause a progressively increased hydrogen ion

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concentration, death occurring at the moment when a neutral point is reached and positive acidity established," thus ascertaining that the acid-alkali balance of the body organism has a vital significance.

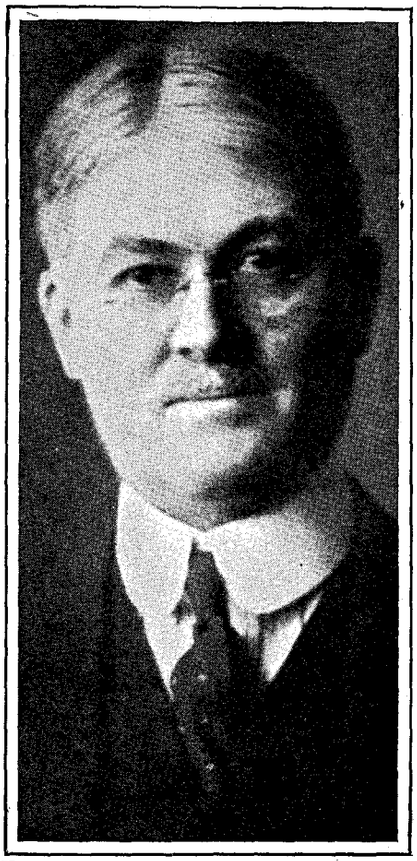
Proceeding further, in collaboration with D. H. Dolley, J. B. Austin, and F. W. Hitchings, Dr. Crile began a study of the cells of every organ and tissue of the body in animals, in excitation, in exhaustion and after death from every conceivable cause, discovering, after nine years of research, "that there is in the organism a kinetic system, the several organs of which collaborate in the transformation of potential into kinetic energy in the form of adaptive responses—muscular action, emotional excitation, febrile phenomena, etc."

In these studies "changes in the liver appeared consistently with the changes in the cells of the brain." This, therefore, suggested the relativity of acids and alkalis in the system, leading to the theorem that "an acid colloid and an alkali colloid separated by a semi-permeable film, a dielectric membrane, constitute an electric cell within which an electric potential exists between the positive and negative poles. According to this conception the cells of the organism would be electric cells in which the comparatively acid nucleus would be the positive pole and the comparatively alkaline cytoplasm the negative pole.

Thus convinced, the investigators "began to consider the organism as a bi-polar mechanism and to direct our researches into the field of bio-physics." This labor was shared by G. B. Obear, Amy F. Rowland and Helen Hosmer, proceeding to establish a premise "which would bridge the gap between the living and the non-living and suggest a physical line of ascent from the action to man," and attempting to meet the following requirements:

1. That electricity is a constant phenomenon of living processes.
2. That the application of electricity to the muscles or glands, or to their nerve supply will cause them to perform their natural functions.
3. That the materials of which animals are constructed are specifically adapted to electrical processes.
4. That in structure and function the unit cells which drive the organism not only are adapted to fabricate, to store and to discharge electricity, but that this is true also of the protoplasm itself.
5. That the organism as a whole is a bi-polar electric mechanism bearing the pattern of the unit cells and that the unit cells are constructed on the pattern of the atom.
6. That the normal and the pathological phenomena of man and animals can be interpreted in electrical terms.

To meet these the electrical significance of certain constiuents in the animal organization was demonstrated, to wit: Water, which forms more than three-fourths of the body; electrical solutions and colloids, which constitute the bulk; hydrogen ions, which permeate all living organisms, and carbohydrates; while "of the highest electric significance are the exquisitely thin, low-conducting lipoid films which surround each of the trillions of cells that compose the body." Thus the "animal organism as a whole is enmeshed in a network of highly specialized electrical conductors, namely, the nervous system," all this proving that the body is "not only highly adapted to electrical processes, but its constituents in their inter-relations within the organism could not be of any conceivable value in a mechanism operated by any other forms of energy."



Keystone

Dr. George W. Crile

"We may, therefore," continues Dr. Crile, "consider the cell as a bi-polar mechanism, the nucleus being the positive element, the cytoplasm, the negative element. The oxidation of the nucleus appears to be on a higher scale than the oxidation of the cytoplasm, and, therefore, as the electric tension increases in the nucleus, the current breaks through; the potential in the nucleus falls, and in consequence, a charge is accumulated on the surface films. These films of infinite thinness, and of high dielectic energy, are peculiarly adapted to the storage and adaptive charge of electric energy. . . . We may concede, then, that electricity keeps 'the flame of life burning in the cell,' and that the flame (oxidation) supplies the electricity which is the vital force of the animal. In accordance with this conception, therefore, the cell is an automatic mechanism; life as we view it is the expression of this automatic mechanism."

According to high scientific authority the cell membrane covering in a human body is equivalent to the area of a city block. The accumulation of electric energy on this membrane, released, produces the energy called life—captured and stored and made to run the organism. In practical operation the unit cells are so constructed that the processes of charging and discharging follow each other in rapid succession, so that an interrupted current passes between the nucleus and the cytoplasm. Thus in each of the unit cells of the brain, each cell would fire its discharges in rapid volley through the semi-permeable membranes, the sequence being, first, an increase in voltage; then a break through the film; a fall in voltage; an instantaneous rise in voltage; these successive events occurring at infinitesimal intervals; just as in the case of similar apparatus made by man, and so on, communicating to the muscles of glands to be stimulated into action. The leakage of the current, Dr. Crile argues, reaches the liver as a "ground" acts under similar circumstances mechanically, there to be caught "and from thence to be conducted back to the brain through the electrolutic fluids permeating its organism."

The researchers found by experiment that when the great circuit which energizes the organism was broken by the removal of the negative pole—the liver—the temperature of the brain slowly fell until death occurred; also, that when stimulants, such as adrenalin were given, heat production (oxidation) within the brain bereft of pole was almost entirely prevented. It was discovered also that sodium, which increases permeability, and calcium, which decreases it, had opposite effects on the temperature of the brain, one increasing and the other diminishing it. This contra-action was tested with other forms of stimuli and by microscopic comparisons, the differentials between brain and liver always becoming observable. Dr. Crile, Dr. Austin, and

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Dr. Hitchings, therefore, became convinced that the energy of the organism is dependent on the difference in potential as due to relative acidity and alkalinity, thus strongly supporting the bi-polar theory.

In this conception of men and animals as bi-polar mechanisms the investigators "assume that the brain is a mechanism," and that "like man-made machines" it can only act in response to some form of stimulation, which, in the animal mechanism, may be either internal or external, such as light, sound, taste, chemical or electrolytic change, or the suggestion of any of these by sounds or symbols. These stimuli are constantly applied and the activities of daily life demand that the brain respond to these. In periods of stress increased response is demanded. The investigators find in adrenalin the controlling factor of oxidation which supplies the needed power to meet extra stress, while the conductivity is increased by iodin produced by the thyroid gland. They conclude:

"The experimental and clinical phenomena thus far placed in evidence when harmonized by the bi-polar theory, seem to indicate that living organisms are driven by electricity, which is fabricated in the brain cells with the aid of adrenalin. But we have seen no evidence that the effects of adrenalin cover more than the emergencies of moments and hours, or at the most, of days. The action of adrenalin is too evanescent to maintain evenly an increased receptivity, increased sensitiveness, for weeks and months. We assume that the brain has no power within itself to do this, and that, therefore, prolonged activation of the organism must be accomplished through the aid of some other organ."

The three go further in a suggestion as to a possible bi-polar basis of reproduction, viz:

"If oxidation in the cells is due to the electric potential, and if oxidation and the film condenser are essential to life, then it would appear that the potential can be handed on only by a division of the cell, the division of the cell including a division of the mechanism which creates the potential in such a way as to provide in each new cell a difference of potential; *i. e.*, the 'flame of life' must necessarily be handed on from cell to cell. Thus, we may conceive that when the spermatozoon which has the characteristics of a nuclear structure is added to the nucleus of the ovum, a greatly augmented nucleus is formed with a corresponding increase in oxidative capacity; hence a capacity for attracting and using food—increasing in size—and in consequence multiplying by cell division."

It is but a step from Dr. Crile's bi-polar theory to the inference that all Life is a vast electrical entity from which the individual man, plant, or animal takes its share of being!

Bridgeport Baffles "Blue Sky" Venders

How one town protects itself from crooked promoters and sellers of worthless stocks

By HARVEY W. ROOT

DURING its war boom Bridgeport, Connecticut, was known far and wide as a "good thing" in the circles of those sharp-witted gentlemen whose consciences may be represented by zero, whose limit is the blue, blue sky, and who with the use of various promotion schemes, worthless stocks, and other investment rainbows become affluent by the simple process of separating the "sucker" and his money. Numbers of the tribe were constantly engaged in "working the town," with resulting losses to it of a sum conservatively estimated at not less than a million and a half each year.

To-day knowing gentlemen of the same class going into Connecticut and New England to gather the "sucker" harvest deliberately detour the city. A few new ones drift in, set up their tents, and prepare to do business, but their stay is short—a week or two at most—and then they gather up their paraphernalia and slip away quietly with an account which shows considerable loss and no profit, and this too in spite of the fact that, regardless of business and industrial depressions, the deposits in Bridgeport's savings banks have increased some millions of dollars.

Of course, no such sudden and desirable change as this just "happened." There was a very definite reason for it, and that reason was the Investors' Protective Service, organized and carried on by Henry S. Osborne. This service was the outgrowth of attempts to solve some problems which followed the war. As chairman of a committee to sell War Savings Stamps Osborne's skill in overcoming difficulties and getting things done came to the attention of the other members of the committee, most of whom were merchants; and when, later on, these same men were shocked and alarmed to find that Savings Stamps and Liberty Bonds were being coaxed away from people all over the city at prices far below their real value they persuaded him to attempt putting an end to it.

He found that there were twenty brokers in the town fattening off the large profits. He suggested that they quit the practice. No attention was paid to the pleasant suggestion. Then five were arrested, taken into court, and fined. For some reason the other fifteen stopped very suddenly.

"The fines were small and didn't amount to much," he told me, "but I didn't care. All I wanted to do was to stop them."

Osborne is no reformer. He has not been interested in punitive measures, noise, displays of super-morals, or crusades to put the shady investment craft as a whole out of business. He simply set out to make Bridgeport a barren waste so far as the traffickers in doubtful and worthless investments were concerned, and he has done it.

In their patriotic zeal, many workmen overloaded themselves with Liberty Bonds, and so fell an easy prey for sharpers, who cheerfully exchanged these all too frequently for worthless or nearly worthless stocks in various sorts of enterprises. Citizens appealed to Osborne, who made a survey of the town to see what the conditions really were, and found them so much worse than imagined that his backers were astounded and shocked.

In a city with a population of 150,000, much of it foreign, offices were being maintained by twenty-two promotion concerns. There were three bucket-shops. Seven men were selling oil stock without a State permit, which was strictly against the Connecticut law. Two were handling mining stock without the same

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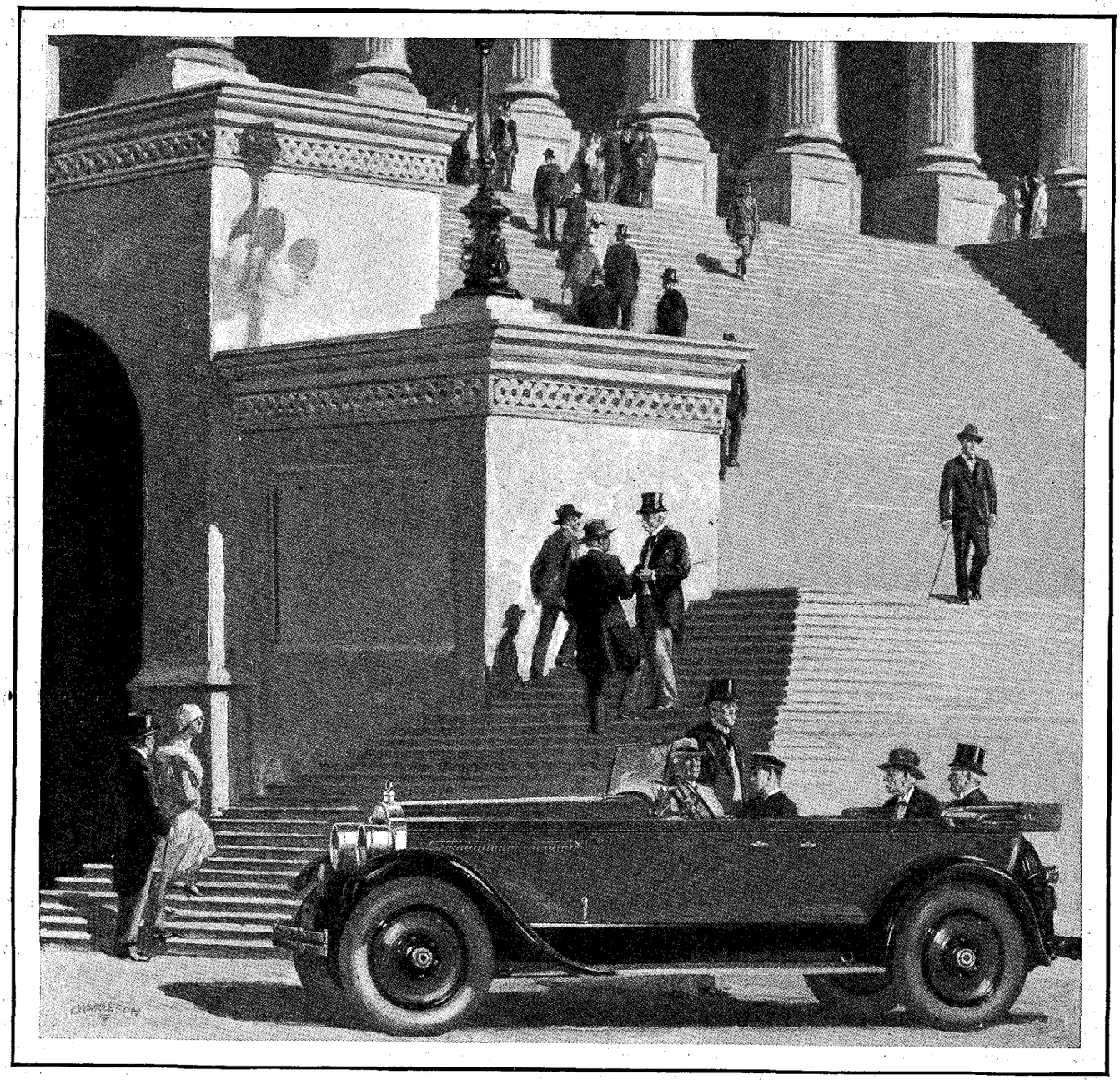

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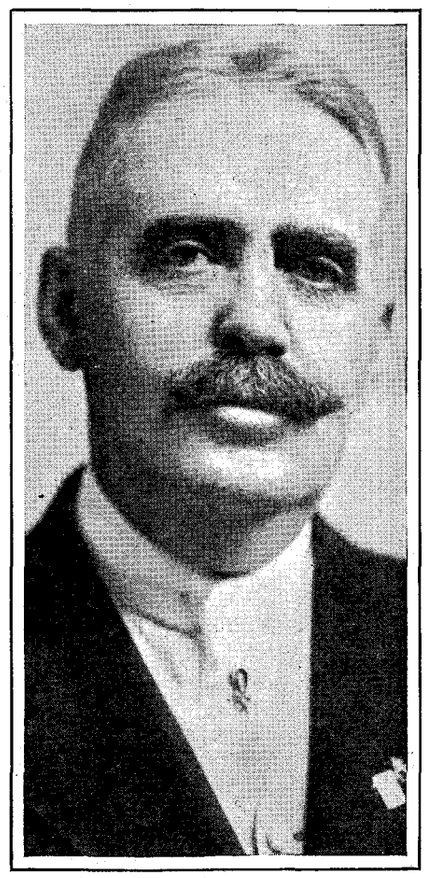
necessary permission. Altogether forty-three different stock propositions for which nothing good could be said were being sold to the financially unsophisticated of Bridgeport; propositions which not only included the ordinary sorts of stocks, but also shares in such enterprises as dealing in groceries, chain stores, meat packing, various kinds of manufacturing, an assortment of services, hotel schemes, and a salt mine. In addition there were three offices in New York City from which brokers were selling stock in a new oil swindle by telephone, and still another New York broker who was doing a lively business by telephone with Bridgeport widows.

These fake concerns claimed capitalizations which totaled $83,000,000, ranging all the way from $250,000 to $30,000,000; offered dividends of from seven to one hundred per cent, and by a very conservative estimate based on reports of the New York Stock Exchange, the National Security Company, and the United States Government were harvesting not less than $1,500,000 a year—probably something more than three per cent of the total factory pay-roll of the city. Nor was it by any means the foreigner wholly, the ignorant, or those with no business experience who had fallen for the sharpers' wiles, for Osborne's investigation disclosed the fact that of the merchants themselves twenty-two per cent had been "stung" anywhere from one hundred to fifteen thousand dollars apiece.

No sooner did Osborne's friends realize the significance of his report than they were more insistent than ever that he organize some sort of a movement to drive the buccaneers from the town. This he proceeded to do.

First of all, he gave his attention to some of the worst of the bunch which had fastened itself on the town. All that was necessary to get rid of those selling oil and mining stocks was to demand the State license which they should have and didn't dare ask for. To some of the others he gave a line of talk and asked a series of questions which brought him an invitation to join in "cleaning up the town" and offers of commissions as high as fifty per cent, but when the negotiations reached a certain point he informed them that he was "onto their game" and was "going after them," and they too disappeared. With these most troublesome and dangerous ones out of the way, he left the rest to make the discovery, which they did in less than a year, that Bridgeport was no place for them, and then turned his attention to "putting out the fire" by the very simple method of "cutting off the supply of fuel."

"The best average a man can make in getting rid of promotion stocks," he said in telling of his experience, "is one sale to every ten prospects, and I knew if I could cut that average down to one in twenty their backs would be broken; that they couldn't make any money and they would clear out of themselves. So I set out to cut it down.



Henry S. Osborne

"It was simply a matter of education. I have a record of one proposition which caused a loss of $200,000 in Bridgeport in six months. There were 843 buyers, scarcely any one of which was known to a reputable investment banker, and in checking up I found that ninety-seven per cent of the $200,000 had been drawn from the savings banks. The only way to stop that sort of thing is to educate the ninety-seven per cent. I didn't interfere with any legitimate proposition, but I *did* interfere with the misrepresentation. I let in the daylight, and the matter took care of itself.

"The man selling wildcat stock merchandises his proposition, and so I went out and merchandised the opposition. I sold the manufacturers and bankers and merchants the idea of giving an investment protective service to those who needed it most—the workers. I showed these men that it was for their interest to give this service. I showed the merchant that if one of his customers was "stung" a hundred dollars he couldn't spend that hundred dollars in the store. I showed the bankers that if the savings of the town went for wildcat stocks there would be nothing left for legitimate investments. I pointed out that, as savings on an average are only about seven per cent of a man's income, if he loses a hundred dollars he will have to earn fourteen hundred more before he can replace the loss. I showed the manufacturer why it was an injury to him to have his help losing money constantly, and as soon as I got the idea over to a manufacturer or a merchant or a banker they passed the word along and helped sell somebody else, and so before long we got practically the whole town sold and I was able to give my time to putting the plan in operation."

Each business man and manufacturer joining the movement pays pro rata toward a fund to carry on the Service. In return he is supplied with cards, seven by eleven inches, on which in large print is the warning: BUYING STOCKS, BONDS, OR OTHER INVESTMENTS FROM STRANGERS IS DANGEROUS. Underneath, in slightly smaller type, is the suggestion: "Before you buy ask your banker about the dealer or go for free advice to the Investors' Protective Service, Inc." These cards are hung in conspicuous places on the walls of workrooms, offices, and shops. With them the subscriber receives a supply of membership cards, which he issues to his employees. These entitle them to the free use of the Protective Service. There are blanks for filling in the name of the employee, the factory or store giving out the card, its number and date. Below is the location of the office of the Service and the office hours. In connection with installing the Service in any establishment a sufficient number of talks are given to make the purpose and value of it clear to the employees, and in the majority of cases they have been glad to avail themselves of it.

Supplementing all this, as opportunities present themselves, Osborne carries on his campaign of education through every available channel: talks to foremen's associations in the factories; to individual workers and employers; at meetings, clubs, luncheons, etc., always hammering home the advice to wait and secure the opinion of some one who knows before investing hard-earned and needed money, and constantly reiterating his slogan, "Ask your banker."

How thoroughly and effectively this slogan has penetrated is indicated by a conversation which Osborne chanced to overhear one day while having his shoes polished. A dealer in wildcat stock was

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exercising all his skill and eloquence in an effort to interest one of the bootblacks. The fellow listened indifferently for a time, and then turned the matter down by saying:

"Well, I ask my banker. I see what he say."

Osborne and the promoter happened to leave the booth at the same time, and once outside the latter exclaimed:

"What do you know about that? Did you hear what that Wop said? He said, 'I ask my banker.' His banker!"

Results have fully justified the undertaking and the methods employed. Although some three hundred propositions have been offered in Bridgeport in the last six years, the amount of wildcat stock sold in the city has dwindled until it is negligible. The last one of the crowd reaping a harvest when Osborne began, slipped away without saying farewell before the end of the first year. If a new promoter comes to town, he does not make more than two or three calls before some one sends word to Osborne. Scattered through the schools, the Police and Fire Departments, the Post Office, among the letter-carriers and insurance men, are a couple of thousand holders of cards, and in the shops, stores, and factories another seventeen thousand, making altogether some twenty thousand pairs of eyes and ears on the watch ready to report any new arrival or activity.

Strange "steerers" drop in from time to time, but they seldom stay for more than a month. Osborne is usually one of the first callers after they open an office and tests the "proposition." Then he begins to ask questions; ends up by telling the fellow what to expect, and in most instances the promoter moves on to some town where there is less information extant. One salesman admitted that in working the town for three weeks he only made one deal, and that every other person he approached either told him they would ask their banker or see Osborne. The promoter's approach is met at every angle with "daylight," "education," and the offer of "free service." Osborne has secured copies of "sucker lists" of Bridgeport which total about eight thousand names, and these are frequently warned by letter of the danger of investing through strangers. As there is a certain type of shark which makes a specialty of preying on widows, he sends letters to women recently widowed offering them the protection of the Service. The "Protective Service" passed the experimental stage in Bridgeport several years ago. It is now better established than ever, and there is small chance for "velvet" or a "killing" there.

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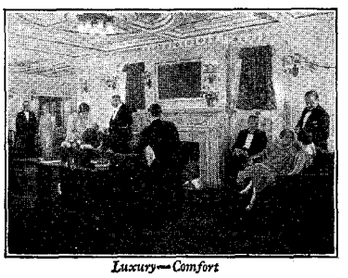

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The Book Table

Edited by EDMUND PEARSON

Beginning with Mice

WHAT the name of Barnum meant to many generations of Americans the name of Sanger meant in England. "Lord" George Sanger,[1] the proprietor of Sanger's Circuses, traveled for many years about Great Britain, Europe, and even America. Everywhere that he went he brought to boys and girls a vision of tents, bareback riders, lions, and elephants.

His father, in the days of Nelson, was seized by a press gang and taken aboard the fleet. He served for ten years, and was on board the Victory on the glorious day of Trafalgar. When his Admiral was killed, the seaman was badly wounded. He was finally retired with a small pension and a curious letter, permitting him to carry on any lawful business that he chose. This was to travel about, carrying on his back a peep-show—the predecessor of the panorama, which is, in turn, the grandfather of the moving-picture show.

The show prospered and new features were added, including a wife and children for Mr. Sanger. He wore a white smock-frock, a beaver hat, knee-breeches, and buckle shoes. The troupe included a giantess and some "cannibal pigmies." With them wandered around England the son, George, who was later to become a much greater showman on his own account.

These were the 1830's and 1840's, the days of the early Dickens novels and of an England long vanished. There were stirring adventures when they fled the smallpox. There was a grisly encounter with body-snatchers. There were riots brought about by the Chartists, and there was much dealing with gypsies. Finally, young George decided to start a show of his own. He was a boy of about eighteen. He procured and trained some white mice, which with some performing canaries and other birds, afterwards strengthened by two intelligent hares, served to set him up in business. These mice were to develop into herds of mighty elephants!

George Sanger was a stout-hearted and loyal Briton who believed that he had nothing to learn from the Yankees on how to run a circus. He did not altogether care for Buffalo Bill when he came into contact with him in later years. Buffalo Bill used to call himself the Honorable W. F. Cody, and Mr. Sanger thought that this was the assumption of a title of nobility, and so, in derision, began to call himself "Lord" George Sanger. "Lord" George was quite fearless with lions and tigers, but he confesses that he trembled and stammered when in the presence of Queen Victoria. The Queen loved to see his circus and animals, and was most kind to the showman.

You may learn from this book many useful things, including how to establish a school for learned pigs and how to tame an oyster so that he will sit by the fire and smoke a pipe. But chiefly you will read it for the amusement which it offers. E. P.

[1] Seventy Years a Showman. By Lord George Sanger. With an Introduction by Kenneth Grahame. E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. $2.

Art

MAHOGANY, ANTIQUE AND MODERN: A Study of Its History and Use in the Decorative Arts. Edited by William Farquhar Payson. E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. $15.

This sumptuous book gives the history of mahogany as a wood, and tells of its simple and innocent days in the South American forest. Then it describes its harvesting, and its use in all countries, principally for household furniture. One section is devoted to the use of mahogany in ship-building. The articles are by expert architects, university professors, and members of the staff of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The many fine half-tone illustrations are chiefly from photographs of specimens of furniture in the Metropolitan Museum. It is a book to admire and to covet.

Biography

R. L. S. AND HIS SINE QUA NON: Flashlights from Skerryvore. By the Gamekeeper (Adelaide A. Boodle). Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $1.50.

Stevenson's *Sine qua non* was his wife. Miss Boodle was a friend of his days in England; readers of his letters will remember that she was one of his correspondents when he was in the South Seas. This is one more addition to the long list of books about Stevenson; we wish we could say that it is an important one.

WHITTIER AT CLOSE RANGE. By Frances Campbell Sparhawk. The Riverdale Press, Boston. $2.

Recollections of the poet by a family friend, a writer who has made a lifelong study of Whittier. She is intimately acquainted with the incidents of his career, of his public life and his literary achievements. She knew his homes and his friends, and the scenes of his verses, and has told of them in a highly interesting manner. The book includes anecdotes of the days of the abolition struggle, of Civil

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War times, and of later political events. The circumstances of writing various notable poems are told, as well as many pleasing anecdotes of the later days of the old Quaker bachelor in his Amesbury home. Miss Sparhawk's work will give great pleasure to Whittier's admirers.

History and Politics

CALEB HEATHCOTE, GENTLEMAN COLONIST. By Dixon Ryan Fox. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $3.

The career of the Englishman who was once lord of the manor in Scarsdale, New York. His name survives in an inn, a school, and a railway station.

THE NEW NATIONAL HISTORY. By Professor J. Arthur Thomson. Vol. I. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. $6.

This is an elaborate picture book in color and in half-tone. The text is doubtless respectable, but the illustrations are the chief feature.

THE PAGEANT OF AMERICA: A Pictorial History of the United States. Edited by Ralph Henry Gabriel. The Yale University Press, New Haven. 15 vols. $67.50 per set.

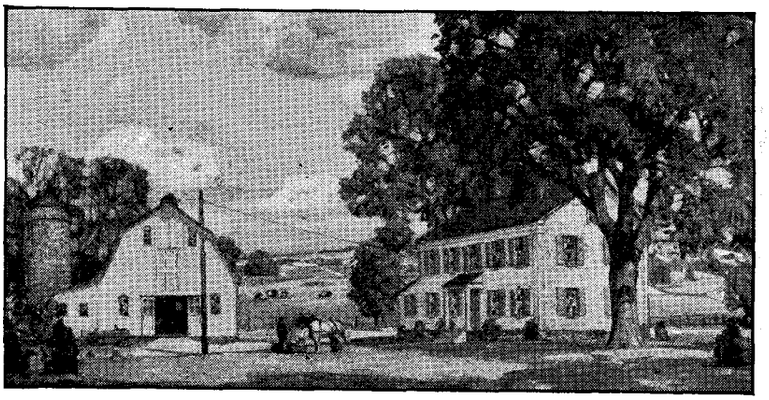
This is a series of books which is to be complete in fifteen volumes. It is the result of the collaboration of many editors and is notable for its illustrations. The average is about three pictures to a page, and the text gets in as best it may. The pictures, however, are admirable and make it a highly interesting and valuable book.

Essays and Criticism

HERMAN MELVILLE. By John Freeman. The Macmillan Company, New York. $1.25.

"Herman Melville, the most powerful of all the great American writers, was born"—With this challenging parenthesis begins the first English book on Melville. It is a pity to begin such a study with a superlative. The biographer's temptation is always to magnify his theme, but we recall few instances of so voluptuous a surrender to the lure. What Mr. Freeman means by "powerful" he nowhere makes clear. Surely he does the cause of Melville no service (and the word cause is irresistibly suggested by his pose of champion) by vaunting power, beauty, artistic merit, in his author where they least appear. Instance, the narrative called "Israel Potter; or, Fifty Years of Exile." But for a few brilliant descriptive passages, it is a labored and perfunctory paraphrase and expansion of the far more spirited original—a tiny book with an enormous title, probably dictated by old Israel in his last days, published in Providence in the year 1824; price 31 cents. An interesting little item still (though Melville spoke of it as extinct seventy years ago) to be picked up in the old book-shops.

Powerful Melville was in his creative moments, and it is strange that his own generation should have so little felt his value. Speaking with generous indignation of the general neglect of Hawthorne, Melville said once: "It is for the Nation's sake, and not for her authors' sake, that I would have America be heedful of the increasing greatness among her writers. For how great the shame, if other nations should be before her in crowning her heroes of the pen!" Melville had perhaps more recognition in England than in America during his lifetime. Several of his books (including "The Whale") were first published in London. But of late years certainly America has not failed of enthusiasm for the author of "Moby Dick." Mr. Weaver's full and fine biography has lifted its monument. New editions of—well, of "Moby Dick"—have jostled each other, and collectors have run up the price of Melville "firsts" far beyond the scale of any of his contemporaries except Poe. Meanwhile England



The Telephone and the Farm

THERE was not a farmer in the world fifty years ago who could talk even to his nearest neighbor by telephone. Not one who could telephone to the doctor in case of sickness or accident. Not one who could telephone for the weather report or call the city for the latest quotations on his crops. Not one who could sell what he raised or buy what he needed by telephone. A neighborly chat over the wire was an impossibility for the farmer's wife or children.

In this country the telephone has transformed the life of the farm.

It has banished the loneliness which in the past so discouraged the rural population and drove many from the large and solitary areas of farms and ranches.

It is a farm hand who stays on the job and is ready to work twenty-four hours every day.

The telephone has become the farmer's watchman in times of emergency.

It outruns the fastest forest or prairie fires and warns of their approach. It has saved rural communities from untold loss of lives and property by giving ample notice of devastating floods. Three million telephones are now in service on the farms, ranches and plantations of the United States.

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has put forth the first collected edition, in sixteen volumes; and this "Life" in the new English "Men of Letters Series" is just what has been needed for the general reader.

On the surface it is an almost tragic story of young genius blighted by the conditions that faced the man of letters in the American forties and fifties. They were the conditions that snuffed out Poe, that almost silenced Hawthorne, that for twenty years snubbed Whitman the unsnubbable. They did silence Melville—snuffed him out as a literary artist; and the Melville that survived for a quarter-century was (but for a single flare at the very end) a humdrum citizen, a small official, whose real life lay in the pursuit of an obscure and melancholy mysticism. Poe, Hawthorne, Whitman, Melville—their treasure has come down to us from that difficult source; and who can say with any assurance that other conditions would have produced better treasure—or any treasure at all?

SHORT TALKS WITH THE DEAD, AND OTHERS. By Hilaire Belloc. Harper & Brothers, New York. $3.

Try merely to "look into" this book of essays, and you will find yourself baffled. You will pause to read here and there, and there and here; you will turn the leaves backwards and forwards, and finally put the book down an hour or two afterwards, having read and enjoyed such essays as "The Good Poet and the Bad Poet," "Talking of Fakers," "Lord Rumbo and Lord Jumbo," "True Advertising," and "Talking of Epitaphs." In short, it is, as a book of essays ought to be, as irresistible as a dish of nuts.

GEORGE MEREDITH. By J. B. Priestley. (English Men of Letters—New Series.) The Macmillan Company, New York. $1.25.

Critics and critics have written of Meredith's work; he was, in his day, as Joseph Conrad in ours, the critics' pet novelist, the writer they best loved to interpret and explain and appreciate and analyze. His own life was less known than that of any of the major authors of the Victorian reign. Perhaps the most important, certainly to us the most interesting, part of this small book is in the pages which tell of the events of his life, and show how different he was from the usual idea of him.

WALT WHITMAN. By John Bailey. (English Men of Letters—New Series.) The Macmillan Company, New York. $1.25.

By an Englishman. The life of Whitman occupies 48 pages of this small book; the rest of the 214 pages are devoted to an intelligent and loving appreciation of the poet's work. It seems to us the best of the books about Whitman, with the single exception of the life by Bliss Perry. It will not satisfy the fanatics who demand extravagant praise for every word and syllable which Whitman ever wrote or spoke, as well as an exaltation of the man himself into a deity. Whitman wrote many lines which were dreadful nonsense, and Mr. Bailey is right in pointing out that fact. But no admirer of Whitman's poetry at its best can demand warmer praise or a juster estimate than his noblest passages receive in this excellent book.

Travel

THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY. By Charles Downing Lay. Duffield & Co., New York. $1.

This pæan in praise of New York and cities in general will be a source of intense comfort and reassurance to those who have built their homes in the cliff holes of modern city apartments and have fewer ladders of escape than they would like. A short draught of true country life suffices after months and years of continual stimulation and companionship. Numerous ingenious methods are suggested by which the plugging farmer may become urbanized and prosperous. Mr. Lay, who is an optimist by profession, sums up his delicious little book by saying: "It cannot be proven that a certain attitude of mind toward one thing or another in our environment is essential to well-being either physical or mental The sea murmurs to the sailor words that he loves and understands; but to the mountaineer accustomed to the silence of deep snows the noise of the sea is futile and irritating excitement. The country man is at home in the woods and fields and is distressed by the roar and the apparent disorder of the city, while the city man in the country hears the cock crow through the night but in the city sleeps through the sweet noises made by milkman and roisterer. Which by this test is the better man?"

HIGH COUNTRY: THE ROCKIES YESTERDAY AND TODAY. By Courtney Ryley Cooper *Little, Brown & Co., Boston.* $2.50.

That Mr. Cooper has enjoyed writing every chapter on his well-known, deeply explored, and much loved mountains is evident. The book is not a feat of literary workmanship, but an easy series of chapters, rambling and colloquial, on proper equipment, proper spirit, and necessary adjustment to wild life. Also amusing reminiscences of mountain towns and men To any one who knew the mining towns of the old West, with their shootings, gamblings, rodeos, and swift and treacherous endings there will be recollection in these pages, as there doubtless once was for a finally civilized Buffalo Bill. One of the prime chapters is "Draw, Stranger." The author says: "There ever existed a sweetness of disposition in the heart of a bandit or a straight out-and-out killer—when he wasn't killing somebody. When one talks to the old-timers of the doings of the Vigilantes, there is always a portion of the story that remains the same: the crowd that gathered in the darkness just outside the trial place, bent on a rescue if possible, because the gentleman who was about to be kicked off the dry-goods box with the rope around his neck was always so good to his pals, to say nothing of his kindness to little children and dumb animals. That is, when he wasn't plying his trade."

THE DAYS OF DICKENS: A Glance at Some Aspects of Early Victorian Life in London By Arthur L. Hayward. E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. $6.

An entertaining description of the times of Pickwick. Life and amusements, inns and theaters, the shady world of crime and imposture, are all depicted.

The Drama

CRAIG'S WIFE. A Drama by George Kelly Little, Brown & Co., Boston. $1.50.

This is, and it deserved to be, the Pulitzer Prize play. It is an extremely natural and interesting presentation of a day or

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two in the life of a family in which the wife put the spotlessness of her floors and rugs above the happiness of anybody in the world. She declined to have roses in her garden or in the house because the petals would fall, and she tried to send the housekeeper outdoors to dust the leaves of the trees. From this apparently humorous but perfectly possible situation there has been made a play which is almost tragic.

Gardening

THE SEASONS IN A FLOWER GARDEN. By Louise Shelton. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $2.

The garden books of Louise Shelton have stood the test of time. One was reprinted a year or so ago; now another, after passing through many editions, has been revised and brought thoroughly up to date, and is republished twenty years after its first appearance. The facts make further recommendation superfluous.

Religion

THE POPE. By Jean Carrère. Translated by Arthur Chambers. Henry Holt & Co., New York. $3.50.

A rather informal but lengthy essay on the papacy.

Sociology

THE YOUNG DELINQUENT. By Cyril Burt. D. Appleton & Co., New York. $5.

The author is an English writer who has studied sociology, especially the problems of child psychology, with the scholars of his own country and from the writings of the others. The book is heavily documented and annotated.

Miscellaneous

THE COMMERCIAL SIDE OF LITERATURE. By Michael Joseph. In Collaboration with Grant Overton. Harper & Brothers, New York. $2.50.

Eminently sensible advice to aspiring authors on "how to sell the things you write." The book may not teach them to sell their manuscripts, but the information is practical and calculated to prevent mistakes and misunderstandings.

Notes on New Books

OUR FLAG. By Dosia Head Brooks. Harold Vinal, New York. $2.50.

Information about the American flag, for schools.

ROSAMOND AND SIMONETTA. By Gladys Brace. Harold Vinal, New York.

Two poetic plays.

THE FRENCH RÉGIME IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. By D. C. Harvey. The Yale University Press, New Haven. $3.

LYRICS AND MEDITATIONS. By Philip Becker Goetz. Privately printed.

IN QUEST OF THE SOUL OF CIVILIZATION. By Hagop Bogigian. Published by the Author, Washington, D. C.

The story of an Armenian and of the Armenians.

THESE TWELVE. By Charles R. Brown. The Century Company, New York. $2.

Jesus and eleven of the men about Him.

FRESH AIR AND VENTILATION. By C.-E. A. Winslow. E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. $2.

WHAT IS REASONABLE RELIGION? By Charles Henry Mackintosh. The Mackintosh Service, Chicago. $1.50.

CHARACTER, CONDUCT AND STUDY. By William H. Cunningham. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. 90c.

How to make the most of school life.

THE FIRST AGE OF CHRISTIANITY. By Ernest F. Scott. The Macmillan Company, New York. $1.50.

THE ADVENTURE OF OLD AGE. By Francis Bardwell. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. $2.

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By the Way

A MACHINE of the Maine Central Railroad broke down. The operator, the foreman, and the plant engineer could not start it.

The expert took one quick look at the machine, tapped it several times with a hammer and told the operator to start it.

His bill was for $250. When the superintendent asked for an itemized statement he got this:

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When down in the mouth, think of Jonah. He came out all right.

A moving picture called "The Flaming Frontier" was shown recently in a New York theater. Two Indians were employed to stand outside for advertising purposes. Accosting one of the Red Men, an inquisitive old lady said, "You are real Indians, are you not?"

"Yes, Madam," was the courteous reply.

"How do you like our city?"

"Fine, Madam. How do you like our country?"

The newspapers, evidently dissatisfied with the present-day crop of murders, have dug up an old one.

"Did she give up music when her husband died?"

"No, she still plays, but only on the black keys."

In The Outlook of July 21st we quoted a sentence in which most people could spot only three f's, when in reality there were five. Here is another test of the keenness of your observation.

Scrutinize carefully the following sentence and see how many f's, large or small, it contains: "Every box of flakes bears the signature of W. H. Kellogg." There are three, but most people see only two.

According to the Bureau of Census figures, manufacturers of malt increased their output 46.4 per cent during the past two years. The total value of malt manufactured during 1925 was $24,053,000 as compared with $16,341,000 in 1923.

Perhaps some of our puzzle fans can solve this problem—why, in view of prohibition, does the manufacture of malt, that important ingredient of beer, increase so rapidly?

In every town there is a sort of Supreme Court made up of the gossips; it is always in session, does not mind where it sits and from its decisions there is no appeal.

A man stalled his automobile in a deep mudhole on a road circling a lake. A small boy appeared immediately with a team of horses and asked if he could be of assistance. He hauled out the car and received three dollars for his work.

"Do you pull out many cars here?" asked the tourist.

"About twelve a day on the average," replied the young man.

"But you do not have to work at night, I suppose?"

"Sure I do. That's when I haul the water for the mud hole.

A housewife had an unexpected guest. The only dessert the house afforded was a pie. But the hostess knew it was a poor pie—one of her bad-luck pies. To her surprise the guest profusely praised that poor pie. A few weeks later the same man was again her guest. This time she had a good pie. To her surprise he said not a word about her good pie. Finally she asked him, "I don't understand it. The last time you were here I had a poor pie, and you praised and praised it. Now I know I have a good pie, and you never said a word about it. What is it?" The guest answered, "I'll tell you, sister. That first pie needed praising."

"It's too bad the careless way the tailor sewed this button on," said the young wife to her husband. "This is the fifth time I have had to put it back for you."

In a large display advertisement a Kansas City store lists a dress sale for "Stout Women" in "The Enlarged Shop on the Seventh Floor."

From the Boston "Transcript:"

Customer: "Have I the pleasant expression you require?"

Photographer: "Perfectly, sir."

Customer: "Then shoot quick; it hurts my face."

There were 22,500 people killed by automobiles in the United States during 1925. The motor-car death rate per one hundred thousand population was increased from 14.9 in 1923 to 17.2 in 1925.

The Florida "Times-Union" quotes the following epitaph taken from a rural cemetery:

"Tears will not bring her back; therefore we weep."

Some statistical facts reported at the recent Convention of Cosmeticians held at Chicago:

More than 500,000 men use cosmetics secretly.

Women visit beauty shops oftener than their churches.

A woman is at the tide of her attractiveness at forty.

Women of the United States spend $5,000,000 a day for beautification purposes.

"What time should I come?"

"Come after supper."

"That's what I was coming after."

From "Punch:"

A Canadian church service paper announces: "Scripture and Offertoire: 'Romance is D Flat.'"

Sometimes, perhaps; but church is hardly the place to say it.

True, a man should be square, but he may cushion his corners a bit.

The editor of a local sport page was asked the question a few days ago: "How long ago was Jack Dempsey's face lifted?" It seems to us that a more suitable question would be: "How long is it since his hands were lifted?"

An Ogdensburg paper informs us that J. E. Hannah, who at twenty-nine had had a painting accepted by the Royal Academy, began life as a mere boy.

A grandmother said to her little grandson, "Benny, I would not slide down that banister."

Little Benny: "I know you wouldn't, grandma."

The former employee of a bankrupt said, "My old boss is on his feet again."

"That's lucky, how did he manage it?"

"They took his car away from him last week."

To solve the following anagram four words of six letters each are needed, each word containing the same letters:

A wicked old —— on mischief was bent,
And soon to a beautiful —— he went.
With no thought of —— he —— far and wide,
Until the irate owner, Sir Will, he espied.

Answer next week.

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